

Nidoume no Jinsei wo Isekai de

– Second Life in Another World –

- Volume 3 -

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東世界で19年を



CHAPTER 36

IT SEEMS TO BE THE SEARCH FOR A BASE OF ACTIVITY FOR STARTERS

Renya hates debts.

In the first place, he is unable to like the deed of buying something with money, he hasn't on hands.

It is only obvious to be unable to wave around something that's not there, therefore he is unable to stomach a character, who tries to accomplish a goal with money brought in from somewhere else.

But, there are also time when he thinks, even that depends on the occasion, I guess?

Exactly such was the occasion now.

The total reward, they received for capturing the dungeon the other day, was 100 gold coins.

As a consequence of giving half of this to Az's party, Renya's party's share is 50 gold coins.

He received strong protests from Az against this.

According to Az, he insisted on them having no right to receive anything like a reward concerning the destruction of the dungeon core, because they were equal to useless in regards to the matter of repulsing the demon.

However, as result of Renya firmly and stubbornly insisting on an equal split, Az helplessly folded.

Looking at it from Renya's view, Az's conduct of trying to firmly refuse was a mistake and they should equally split the reward in halves after all, since there was no doubt they were on the verge of death all the same.

"Weren't we even unable to fulfil our role as tanks!?" (Az)

Due to the pressuring Az, Renya told him in an as flat as possible voice,

"So what? Since I approved of it, that's all there is to it. Or did you even think that I would be able to compete with the demon by myself without you guys? It's disagreeable, if you overestimate me too much, Az." (Renya)

If I conceal the emotions in my voice and expressions, he might end up noticing that this is no practical argument.

Having gotten close to this magician in front of him beyond a certain degree, Az' continuous, expressionless face was quite troublesome for Renya, but Renya pretended to be expressionless by mobilizing his mimetic muscles.

After glaring at each other for a while, Az whispers,

"Got it. ... I will receive it this time ... Sorry." (Az)

Saying this, he bowed deeply.

After seeing off such Az leaving to talk with his party members about the reward, Renya sighs very deeply.

In the first place it was plainly obvious that Az' group needed money a lot more than Renya's group.

Even if they are able to continue as adventurers temporarily, the four guards have lost almost all of their equipment. If they were to buy new items again, this time's reward, which they should accept, won't be sufficient at all.

If it turns out that they will stop being adventurers after this time's incident, it will become necessary to have money to cover the costs of living and such until they search for their next occupation or until their next occupation returns money.

No matter which of either, it was always better to have money.

Speaking of Renya's group in comparison, it was certainly true that they were working with the main goal of earning money, but that has absolutely no urgent nature.

If they have money at hand for at least the inn fees and meals, there wouldn't be any problem, even if they postponed other things.

Since he has certainly understood that, it would have been fine for Renya even if he ended up giving most of the reward, obtained in this time's job, to Az, but on top of his position as party leader, there's no meaning in forcing it either. Since he couldn't come up with a reason to persuade him except sympathy, it was settled by the method called equal split.

Renya's scheme was that even if Shion's group tries to say something, they wouldn't be able to talk back persistently since they did the job together. But at the moment he told the two this story after the fact, he received a reply "Isn't it fine, as long as it's okay with Renya?" in a carefree manner making him disappointed.

Apart from that, it's a different story too.

As for the split of Renya's group's share of 50 gold coins, Rona and Shion each have only requested 2 gold coins. As they told Renya to take the remaining money, Renya's current assets are 46 gold coins.

At the time he is wandering aimlessly around the city wondering what to do with those gold coins, Renya, who suddenly stopped at a place that looks like a real estate agent, found a poster of a certain property up for sale.

That property, which is located in the business ward, was something used as residence and a store with big merchant shelves everywhere. *Is it the result of being in a place close to the outer circumference of the city?* It is a building made out of solid stone with a spacious garden. In addition the the store portion of the building itself faced towards the street. It seems to have been made with a structure of even having a workshop and a storage.

It was a property that truly met Renya's requirements, but the problem was its price.

With an amount of 80 gold coins for the sale, 40 coins have to be paid upfront and the remaining in instalments. The instalments' frequency is agreed upon consultation, but it's as far as possible in accordance with the purchaser's wish.

Renya isn't well-informed about the market price at all.

Nevertheless, Renya has heard that for this sort of property at least one platinum plate

has been previously necessary.

It might also depend on the scale of the building and the property's extent, but after looking at the information of the property, you have to consider its scale as large once you attach the adjective 'somewhat' to it. Since that's the case, isn't its value more than one platinum plate? He considered.

Even if there is some problem, 80 gold coins is cheap.

I'm not able to pay the total sum in one go, but I have sufficient money on hand if it's only the down payment.

Getting a loan is a bad way no matter what, but if I let it get away this time, there might be no next time.

"Is there some property you are interested in?"

Due to the appearance of Renya, who intently stared at the paper stuck to the store's wall, a middle-aged male clerk addressed him with a "Did you see something hopeful?" and lowered his back.

"It's this, but isn't it somehow far too cheap?" (Renya)

"Ah, you mean this...?"

With only a short glance at the paper pointed out by Renya, the clerk's face became gloomy.

By only seeing that expression, Renya sensed that there was some issue, but the male clerk quietly brought his mouth close to Renya's ear and whispered while visibly hesitating,

"As for this property, you know..."

"Yes?" (Renya)

"Grudges have... malice." *

Renya definitely didn't know whether it's fine, if the clerk explains it with such moment of silence.

But, his hand reached out to the katana hanging at his waist ordered by something else than his thinking. The clerk, who saw that, leaped back from Renya in a panic.

While falling down overenthusiastically, he switches over to a stance of dogeza skilfully and begins to rub his forehead against the ground.

"I'm sorry. Please excuse me. It's a joke!"

"... Well... I thought so." (Renya)

While highly praising his self-control within his mind, Renya slowly lowered the hand, which was on the katana.

He was at the point of seriously killing him.

He believed that he wouldn't have any feelings of guilt at all, if he ended up cutting the clerk, but normally he would be arrested for violation of the laws.

However, coming to another world, Renya received a large shock for having thrown a bad pun, he wouldn't be able to hear even in his former world, at him without any kind of resolve either.

"B-But, that doesn't mean that all of it is a joke..."

"Ha?" (Renya)

"It is mostly a rumour that this building has been cursed."

A certain, prospering merchant lived in that mansion.

That merchant, who possessed a beautiful wife and bright children, employed a large number of servants. He was a merchant carrying out huge business at the level of competing for the number 1 or 2 spot even in the city of Kukrika.

The wages he paid to the servants were nice as well. Because he was taking good care of others, his house was continually visited by people wishing to work at the stores, managed by him.

His reputation in the trade was great too. It seemed that the shops of that merchant would flourish for many years to come.

The abnormal event occurred some years back.

It was a serial kidnapping incident of young women in the city of Kukrika.

It was an incident of girls in the latter half of their teens going missing one after the other.

The city guard ran around the whole city searching for the whereabouts of the vanished girls. They put out an official notice for women to avoid walking alone, regardless of day or night.

And, the people, investigating that case, stumbled upon a single name in their search.

The victims were all working at the store of the merchant or they were only people, who received an interview as they wanted to work there.

It was the only thread connecting the victims.

The guards, who notices that, immediately rushed to the house of the merchant in order to interrogate him about the circumstances.

What they saw there was...

"What did they see?" (Renya)

"It's the same as you might have imagined."

The clerk whispers in a lowered voice.

It's likely to raise the excitement of the story, but for Renya it doesn't make it sound better at all.

I can't hear anything but a bizarre serial murder case, whatever he might say, so what about it?

It certainly is a tragic story, but if he looks around for stories resembling this in his previous world, it's a story that can be found at a frequency on the level of being vaguely similar to bumping into a discarded stone.

If that's the degree of its curse, it will be a weird talk, if that world (T/N: Earth) isn't

filled all over the with curses.

Isn't it strange that dozens of ghosts don't appear in it either? He wonders

Rather than his reaction being extremely weak, Renya has absolutely no reaction that could be labelled as such. Due to that, the look of the clerk was dejected for some reason.

"So, well, this is the history of that property."

"Is it the only history?" (Renya)

Renya is amazed of himself holding quite the expectations in comparison to that.

"No, well, they seem to really come out, but..."

The clerk lowered his voice having once again a strange atmosphere, however Renya has absolutely no intention to go along with it.

"What is?" (Renya)

"It seems to be ghosts. The customer-sama, who moved into that property, has cancelled the contract saying he saw them every time it became night."

As expected of another world, Renya stopped leaking those words triggered by his surprise this time.

Somehow or other, it seems real ghosts are created in this world through grudges and resentments.

Renya wasn't able to recall the memories of his former world at all as they were erased according to what he was told before, however he likely shouldn't have ever met existences called ghosts or spectres in the environment of his previous existence.

That's the reason why Renya currently doesn't believe in something called ghost at all.

In case he met them, he should be able to properly believe in their existence. In other words, the matter of him not believing, was likely a matter of him not having met them.

"Are those spirits only appearing frequently at night?" (Renya)

"Yes, that's how it seems."

Even if this might be a different world, it seems to be the same in this aspect to his original world.

The spectacle of ghosts boldly exposing their appearance during the day can't be observed even if it might be a different world.

"Is it possible to confirm that? I'm considering to buy it, if there's no problem." (Renya)

Although it's dirt cheap in regards to the market price, the property concerned has a history of being infested with ghosts and their likes.

The mind of Renya, who ended up thinking that it somehow seemed very interesting, plunged into a mood of already buying it at that point in time.

But, do they really appear or not?

The clerk nodded to Renya asking with the remaining discernment at the degree of thinking that it's probably necessary to confirm what kind of danger the ghosts are, if they really appear.

"Since it is extremely rare for me to welcome such a whimsical person like you... it will be possible to stay a night for the sake of checking, but there is no furniture nor any bedding. As it has stayed in the same state as the time when the former owning merchant sold it, please stay over with that belief."

"You are at least able to clean it in advance... it's up for sale, right?" (Renya)

"It can't be helped since no one wants to enter there as it's spooky."

"Ah, right. Got it. By the way, what happened to that merchant?" (Renya)

"Of course he was arrested and put to trial. The verdict was capital crime, but it was in order to soothe the cruelly murdered women, even if only a bit,..."

Lowering his voice once again and for some reason putting on airs in the way of talking, the clerk said with plenty of ambience,

"He was beheaded in the garden of his mansion."

The clerk laughs in a low and eerie manner.

Even this late in the game the clerk was trying to produce a scary story, but he completely failed at that.

Renya, not caring at all, started to talk quite indifferently,

"The cleaning of that was difficult, wasn't it? I don't know how decapitation is performed in this world, but it's quite complicated in fact. The neck is quite muscled. The bones are reasonably hard since they are thick. If your aim is off, you will end up hitting the back or the shoulders. The neck of those grown fat, where is it? it might become that funny kind of story too. Besides, as for handling a sword or an axe, if you aren't able to cut it off in one blow, the criminal will suffer. If an unskilled fellow does it, it won't be off even after slashing several times. It will even become a story of the criminal writhing in agony... well, if you call that their atonement, that's how it will be, but it will be horrifying story, if you consider having done that to yourself, no? After having definitely placed the criminal's head on the executioner's block, you hit the neck with an axe. It's possible to finish it with a single blow even for an amateur, if you strike with a hammer from above, but it will become a disaster, if it penetrates only half-heartedly because the hammer-swinging fellow hesitated. But did you know that?" (Renya)

Due to Renya starting to smoothly reveal the techniques and knowledge concerning decapitation, the clerk's face turned pale, not comparable to a person having heard a ghost story. He withdraws into the store's interior to hand over the key of that building to Renya.

Renya even continued to call out to his back as means of harassment.

"In my home town they are saying that lovely flowers bloom under trees with corpses buried below, but that guy's corpse, hasn't it been buried in the garden?" (Renya)

"I don't know! Please quickly go confirming now that you have the key!"

Due to the answer of the clerk, which was similar to screaming, Renya smiled wryly it's out of the question to get the jitters in this way, if you started with the ghost stories, right?

CHAPTER 37

IT SEEMS TO BE A PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION OF THE PROPERTY

"... will become our base of operations... go to see the house, you say..." (Shion)

For some reason Shion's expression is blank, as if her hopes were crushed or as if she even witnessed the end of the world.

While looking at Shion, who sat down visibly crumbling down on top of her chair at the table in the inn, Renya cocked his head in puzzlement wondering what the heck was so devastating about the words he said.

"Since it seems to be a property with a slightly interesting background, I decided to try staying there for a night to check it out, but... what's the problem?" (Renya)

"Is that so ...? It was fast ... for this day to come ..." (Shion)

The appearance of Shion, who tells this in a murmur with her eyes cast down, Renya isn't able to understand it at all.

The greatly perplexed Renya watched the state of Shion next to him and turns his sight to Rona, who doesn't try to intervene.

It was soon the time when the public gazes by the customers coming to eat their dinner will increase, or to sum it up, time was slowly getting close to evening.

As it is now, there's also the concern of various, strange gossip going around, if he keeps Shion, who has a somewhat burned-out atmosphere, company.

"Heey. Why did she become like this?" (Renya)

"Don't you happen to know?" (Rona)

Being counter-asked by Rona, Renya tries to roughly search his memories, but there's nothing particularly notable coming to mind.

"Sorry, I have no clue." (Renya)

"Shion is worrying whether the party won't be dissolved once you bought a house, Renya-san." (Rona)

When told by Rona, Renya finally realizes it.

In the beginning, at the time when Shion invited Renya, they formed the party in order to earn money for buying a base of activity. That was the justification they used.

At that time Shion made a proposal like *let's reside there with the party, once we bought it,* but she put off the conclusion of the discussion to another time, once it would be time for that.

Somehow Shion apparently wanted Renya to ponder whether they will continue the party even after obtaining a base of activity, but because she ended up postponing the decision, she is worrying whether Renya won't leave the party now that the time has come.

"I don't remember harbouring such an intention though?" (Renya)

"In addition to such fighting strength, you are also able to cook and your personality is reasonably good, too. Your looks are so-so, though as person it's important what's inside. Even if one needs money, you will hand it over without hesitation and attachment to it. Is it an excellent property? If it suits you, won't you receive it as set together with me on top?" (Rona)

Renya frowned due to Rona smoothly spouting something outrageous.

"You are no kitten. Do I have a reason to receive you with a "Sure, yes"? In the first place, I probably told you, but I'm attached to money, no?" (Renya)

"A person, who is attached to money, won't do something like handing over half of the reward money to Az-san with no scruples." (Rona)

"That is what Az' group should rightly receive..." (Renya)

"Yes, doubt. The reward, which Az' group should rightly receive on this occasion, is just 12 gold coins. The remaining 38 gold coins are a reward for the destruction and sale of the core and half the reward for cooperating with the guild, isn't it? All of that

is Renya's earnings." (Rona)

Once she finishes stating that, he has no words to rebut her since it's certainly true.

Originally it is logical to split it with Shion and Rona, his party members. Renya himself is feeling some guilt as well in regards to him giving half the amount to Az' party, although it was out of pity.

Rona smiles cheerfully at Renya, who ended up being lost for words.

"It's a good thing as long as we have money to spend. Given that it's not like I'm particularly blaming you for having done something bad, don't pull such face, please. Rather than such trivial matter, doing something about Shion comes first now. You know what you have to say, right?" (Rona)

Rona points at Shion, who doesn't listen at all, even not to the current chain of them arguing forth and back.

While wondering whether the day will come when he will be able to get the better of this woman, Renya addressed words, he thought that they might be the right ones in this situation, at Shion.

"It has been decided that we will live together in the party's base of activity. So, do you want to come check it out as well, Shion?" (Renya)

"Eh?" (Shion)

She raises her face, that turned into that of a half-dead.

Her gaze closely focussed on Renya's nearby face and after some time, in order to ponder about the words addressed at her, at last life returned into Shion's face and her dead eyes revived.

"Living, together... T-That's right. It will be used as the party's base of activity." (Shion)

"Oh, yes, since there's no reason for me to go confirm by myself either, let's go together, Shion. Is your schedule open? We will go to the actual place after this." (Renya)

"No problem. I will go together with you at any cost. We will go after this? Please wait a bit I have to get ready if we stay the night there." (Shion)

Having completely changed from the corpse-like state, Shion stood up as if jumping up and down and ran off to the room, they are staying at, to get her luggage.

No matter how you look at her retreating figure, she seems like a dog that is about to be taken along on a walk, Renya has quite the rude thought while seeing her off.

"What will you do, Rona? If it's related to ghosts, it should be a priest's speciality." (Renya)

"Won't it be alright if you are there, Renya? I have to excuse myself from something like staying a night over at a deserted house, thus I shall decline here." (Rona)

As Rona says so bluntly while facing another way, Renya glares at her profile with scornful eyes.

Turning her sight in Renya's direction for a glance, Rona noticed how he was looking her way and averted her sight in a hurry.

"What are you scheming?" (Renya)

"Nothing... by the way, there are many stories about feelings of love between opposite sexes sprouting on battlefields, on top of suspension bridges and such. How far do you believe in those?" (Rona)

"You, what are you aiming at? Hey, at least look this way. Try to talk with me by looking at my eyes!?" (Renya)

Due to Renya grabbing her shoulder and trying to turn her towards himself, Rona desperately resists to turn around at any cost.

In the end Rona never looked in Renya's direction until Shion comes back holding all the luggages, which will become her stay-over set.

"The two of us, Renya and me, will stay the night, huh? That's somehow nice, things like that." (Shion)

Renya, who basically isn't familiar with the local area of the city of Kukrika, had decided that they, except Rona who didn't come along after all, will go to the property with the interesting background, told by the real estate agent, led by Shion.

Shion's attire isn't her usual clothes for combat use but a dark blue jouge for men for some reason.

Once Renya inquired why she doesn't wear a skirt or such, she replied only with "Because it doesn't suit me."

When he makes sure for the time being, she has brought along a pouch, which was filled with supplies, outfits and a sleeping bag without holding any arms besides the long sword, she carried in her hand.

Speaking of Renya, he has no intention to arm himself for the sake of only checking a property within the city either. He wore a brown jouge and his katana was affixed to a sword belt.

Since he has stored all the other luggage in his [Inventory], there will be no problem to prepare a meal or bedding.

"I think it was around this area, but..." (Shion)

Due to relying on the map he received from the real estate agent, Shion, who was leading, stopped her feet.

"Over there... I guess?"

What was ahead of where Shion was pointing at was a corner surrounded by a high wall.

Standing out in the very dim light of the ending day, it has been surrounded by an astonishingly high wall. There are plants similar to ivies of an unknown species on the wall, growing thickly in a closely packed manner as if they have been covering the wall from the start.

The entrance gate is rust-eaten as if representing that it wasn't maintained for a long time. Once Renya puts in the key, he borrowed from the real estate agent, it slowly opens inwards while creaking.

Once they pass through the gate, there is a stone paving continuing all the way to the entrance of the building. Left and right of the stone paving was the garden, but even that hasn't been tended by anyone since abandoning the property. The whole surface was overgrown with weeds, which naturally continued to grow wildly.

Even the trees, that might have been groomed neatly in the beginning, had their branches, lacking any kind of trimming, extend here and there as they liked.

"It seems it will take time until we will be able to live here properly."

"Such things might be included in the price as well, though."

"If the outside has gone this much to ruin, the building's interior will likely be quite terrible as well", Renya sighs.

Even if he buys the building and the plot of land, it's unlikely a mistake that it will take a considerable amount of money until they can try to live here after properly repairing it. It seems obvious that they are going to have to earn money with all their strength from morning till evening even after buying it.

Did Shion have the same opinion? In contrast to the depressed-looking Renya, she was very delighted about something.

"I don't particularly plan to determine the continuation of the party by the amount of labour though?" (Renya)

"I haven't said anything?" (Shion)

"I see... well, then it's fine." (Renya)

While exchanging such conversation, the two finally arrive at the entrance of the building.

Inserting and turning the key in the excessive and massive door of the entrance, the door, which is opened by the key together with a heavy and hard sound, slowly opens up with a lowly grating sound.

On the other side of the opened door the light entering from the windows is weak since it's the gloominess of twilight and naturally there are no lamps either.

In the deserted space Shion unconsciously placed her hand on the shoulder of Renya standing next to her as she is somehow worried to see something for no good reason.

"It's... dark." (Shion)

"Well, you know, that's because there's no light. Wait a moment." (Renya)

After hitting her hand, placed on his shoulder, with a tap-tap in order to give her some peace of mind, Renya faced towards that deserted space and quickly waved his right hand.

"<Light>" (Renya)

A magic light is lit in the dim space.

The light, that doesn't emit any heat, shone dazzlingly white. It easily illuminated the entirety of the entrance hall starting from the entrance.

The number of lights is actually 16.

"I created them to continue for 12 hours. It's the entrance so there won't be any problem even if it stays bright until morning." (Renya)

"Hmm, that's right." (Shion)

Shion nodded without hesitation, but she has no knowledge concerning magic, therefore she doesn't realize the strange scene in front of her. (T/N: By the way the author uses 魔術 aka majutsu instead of 魔法 aka mahou. Both can mean magic. I will differentiate them into sorcery and magic, if the author starts to switch around)

The consumption of mana will become severe in proportion to the power of the magic and its activation time.

It's something that can be calculated by simple multiplication, but what Renya just now displayed by doing just a single swing of his arm isn't the continued activation time of roughly 10 minutes but an activation time of 12 hours. He did that for 16 lights at the same time.

The answer for this will become $6 \times 12 \times 16 = 1152$. In other words, the normal <Light> will consume 1152 mana.

It's an amount that will easily make a typical magician faint.

If Az or Khalil were present at this place, this abnormal scene would doubtlessly scare them out of their wits, however unfortunately Shion has absolutely no knowledge in this area.

She just doesn't think anything else but it's great that it has become bright~

Even Renya has no interest in explaining it since he isn't particularly fond of bragging either.

The entrance hall, which became bright, leads to the second floor from the first floor. Right in front of them there are stairs leading to the second floor.

There are rooms, surrounding the entrance on the first floor, a parlour, a dining room with a kitchen attached, a storehouse, another storehouse and a workshop.

The part facing towards the street is the store section. Apparently it had two storehouses, one for the store and one for the workshop.

Once you go up to the second floor, there are three bedrooms with bathrooms, a library, a living room and a nursery. It seems the third floor was used as attic storage.

Renya mercilessly tossed <Light> with a 12-hours activation time in the rooms, except the bedrooms. The entire building ended up being illuminated with a brightness similar to broad daylight.

Even only creating a single light source expends 72 mana for a normal magician.

Due to Renya creating those one after the other, even Shion, who's disinterested in magic, begins to notice *isn't that somehow strange?*

"Hey, Renya. Why are you scattering so much light all over?" (Shion)

"Mmh? Ah, didn't I explain it to you?" (Renya)

While scratching his head saying "though it's a bit late", Renya told it straight to Shion like this,

"It appears that ghosts come out in this building." (Renya)

"... Hah?" (Shion)

"It seems to be the home of a merchant, who had done serial murders in a bizarre

manner, I'm told. From what I have heard, ghosts appear here. Which reminds me, I forgot to ask what kinds of ghosts come out... I guess it's the killed type? Or it might be the merchant, who is said to have been decapitated in this garden? Oh well, either way is fine, but will they come out even if I make it this bright?" (Renya)

"Gho... sts?" (Shion)

"Yea. Is there any problem?" (Renya)

Shion appeared to slowly inhale her breath.

Renya, who for some reason read her next action, thrusts a finger in both his ears and prepares himself to weather it out.

And then after a blank moment, Shion's scream finally resounded shrilly within the very dim light as if shaking the entire site.

CHAPTER 38

It seems to be a night in the deserted house

"Impossible! Impossible, impossible, impossible! It is impossible! Hey, let's go back, Renya..." (Shion)

Clinging to Renya's right shoulder with both hands, Shion frantically appeals with upturned eyes.

Stirring up her hands helplessly like a lost child, her up-looking eyes are completely blurred with tears.

There was no doubt that her chest touching him, even if only slightly, was a spectacle for a man, but since Renya has his shoulder crushed with a terrific grip additionally to having his senses stolen, he tears off Shion's hands and thus doesn't pay attention to that spectacle overly much.

"Why are we spending the night in a property where something like ghosts appear...? I beg you, let's go baaack..." (Shion)



"No way, I told you, it's for the sake of confirming that, right? As they are ghosts, they won't come out unless it's night. You know that there's no other method but to stay the night, if one considers to check it out, right? If you want to go back, isn't it fine for you to go back by yourself?" (Renya)

"After hearing such a story, there's no way for me to be able to return by myself through the streets in the night, is there? Renya, you brute!" (Shion)

Due to the state of Shion, which is close to a situation of the offender being angry at the victim, Renya begins to wonder whether it had been a mistake to have brought her along.

However, since it's certainly his own fault that he didn't take her along after properly explaining the circumstances in advance, he isn't able to strongly talk back either.

All things considered, it was unexpected that Shion was hopeless in regards to ghost stories, or rather in regards to ghosts.

In the first place, rather than not knowing whether ghosts exist or not, Renya considered the visual and threatening state of the melted human types, which they encountered in the dungeon, to be manifold more scarier. But once he tries to question about those circumstances,

"You can't kill ghosts with a sword, can you!?" (Shion)

was the answer he got.

Listening to that reply, Renya gradually rated Shion as disappointing young woman. He decided to assign the new word "physics idiot" to her.

While trying to drag along Shion, who insists on going back in a loud voice and desperately pulls his sleeves, Renya starts the investigation of the building.

The first floor faces the road on the opposite side of the entrance. This has become the store space.

One of the two storehouses can only be entered from the store's side. The other is adjoining to the workshop and it can't be entered from anywhere but the workshop.

There was furniture left behind in the parlour from the time when people lived here,

but he discovered many of them being moth-eaten and corroded and moreover a thick layer of dust and dirt had been formed and accumulated.

Rather than repairing and cleaning the furniture, all of them will be disposed once. The types of the newly bought ones might depend on the money, but there's no mistake that it will also take time, Renya judges.

There was something that resembled a dining room too.

The cookware was left behind there, but, as expected, even Renya has no intention to use items, which were used by a criminal of a bizarre serial murdering case. He decides to get rid of everything.

The kitchen was established as something expensive, which used plenty of magic tools.

If a magic stone is supplied, water and fire are even usable with a single button. "The degree of strength can be freely adjusted as well", Shion explains. Renya admires this place for being strangely high-tech.

The workshop's devices were quite the splendid items as well.

In order to be able to work with fire, a furnace, which used magic stones as fuel, had been installed. Besides that it had been provided with stuff like an imposing cupboard, making it possible to place ingredients and chemicals on it, and a sturdy work table. The workshop is in a state of being usable right away once the cleaning has finished there.

"I wonder, was someone killed on this work table...?" (Shion)

It's a work table, which has space to the degree that a single person is even able to lie down on it. While staring at it timidly, Shion asks so, but Renya shook his head.

"By no means something like that happened, right? If for argument's sake such thing had been done, I will scold the ghosts at the time they come out." (Renya)

A work table is a place where a craftsman works.

Renya doesn't intend in the least to overlook someone, who does such an insolent action at a place like that.

"You will scold the ghosts? I wonder if they will listen...?" (Shion)

"That I don't know. It's something I haven't done yet either." (Renya)

Ascending to the second floor, there are three bedrooms.

The bedroom of the married merchant couple, who were the original inhabitants, one bedroom for each child and one bedroom for guests.

The furniture and bedding was left behind here as is as well, but, as expected, without any intention to use something which was used by strangers and since they are extremely dirty, Renya plans to dispose of it entirely.

The bathrooms are quite spacious. With the bathtub being something gorgeous made out of marble, the hot-water supply device is something that used magic utilizing a magic stone and it has even a shower installed. In spite of not having been used for a long time, its condition was quite satisfactory.

"It's great for the bath to be spacious. It's big enough so that one can enter with several people." (Shion)

"I have no plans for mixed bathing though." (Renya)

Shion followed trying to hide behind Renya's back as usual, but her eyes were sparkling when she saw the facilities of the bathroom.

"Don't you want to see Rona's bathing appearance? Although she is already amazing normally, it gets even more amazing once she gets wet." (Shion)

"I don't know what's amazing, but the stability of my life and mind is precious." (Renya)

She likely won't make a fuss even if he peeps at her for example, but Renya has the belief that she will absolutely make use of that matter for something else.

"H-How about mine, I wonder? I have pride in them being reasonably well, but..." (Shion)

"What are you expecting of me? It would be better for you to explain it precisely once." (Renya)

While answering with a fed up expression, *certainly, Shion might have sex appeal exposing her slightly flushed skin and with her hair put up,* he ends up suddenly thinking about such things.

The two tried to visit the remaining library, living room and nursery, but there was nothing, they should examine in particular, there.

Some types of furniture were left behind after all, but there isn't anything in a condition that could be re-used. When they arrived at the library, everything, such as all kinds of books, was gone.

After roughly touring the building, Renya created a space in the garden by suitably mowing down the weeds, which had grown thickly, and decided to begin dinner preparations there.

It's not like the cooking equipment of the dining room can't be used, but that doesn't mean that he bought the property at present. Both of them have no magic stones, which serve as fuel, in the first place.

Naturally deciding to make a fire by themselves for the dinner preparation, it's only natural that they must do that outside.

Taking firewood out of his [Inventory] and piling it up, Shion sets fire to the pile with magic.

Since fire will create embers once it burns to a certain extent, he places a pot, similar to a shallow frying pan, on top of it. He thinly pours something mixed with water and dry flour of crops, which resembled corn and wheat flour, into the pot.

Once he roasted this, something like thin bread has been completed, but after roasting several sheets of that, Renya pours oil into the same frying pan and this time he tosses stuff like meat and vegetables cut in large pieces into it. He fries those with salt, alcohol and a small dose of honey.

It will truly become something yakiniku-like, if he puts in soy sauce, sesame oil and mirin in here, but it can't be helped if he doesn't have those things.

Although it's fine, once I will be able to make my own creations sooner or later, Renya comforts himself.

Anyway, once the frying finished, he distributes it on large plates, garnishes it with vegetable leaves, washed with water, and it's done.

Also, placing vegetable leaves on top of the thin bread and putting the fried meat on top of that, he rolls it up and eats that.

Preparing even mustard, he is fond of, in order to apply it, he tried to line up a light wine as beverage.

He experiences a deep taste with the fried food from the beginning. He also makes sure that it won't become bland even if he inserts t into bread and vegetables.

"Renya, at least don't get absorbed in food." (Shion)

Shion, who sank her teeth into the rolled up dish placing the ingredients together as she was taught, said this seriously.

Adventurers often won't do something like cooking while mobilising.

Although it's a consequence of it not being deemed acceptable to increase the luggage, the reality is that many people aren't able to cook in addition to that.

With food at the level of it being grilled with salt sprinkled on top at most, there are many parties, for whom it's absolutely out of reach to do something like boiling, frying and steaming.

With Shion definitely not being the cooking type either, she seems to have gotten accustomed to eat simple meals, which won't take much time to prepare, like the other adventurers.

"It's extremely unlikely for me to return to my previous life, if I'm acting together with you, Renya." (Shion)

Holding the rolled-up bread with both hands, Shion smiles bitterly while biting into it with proper manners. Renya bit into his own share of bread without knowing what he should answer to that.

Shion laughed even more while thinking *by his appearance, he is embarrassed, I think,* but immediately following her body freezes with a start and her face, that was smiling, stiffened.

Due to her face suddenly becoming pale, Renya, who perceived that something likely happened, asks a question,

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"What's up?" (Renya)
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"Just now... someone laughing..." (Shion)

Since the cooking was done outside, the place, where they are eating their dinner, is outside as well.

Given that it was unpleasant for both of them to be sitting directly on the bare ground, they took their meal sitting on the chairs Renya brought along, but as there's only the garden, overgrown with weeds, and the building in the vicinity, there's no indication of someone lurking around.

"Haven't you misheard?" (Renya)

"I don't know... but, it's been someone's laughter after all..." (Shion)

A giggling of a small girl.

It's a voice laughing with a giggle, but this time both of their ears heard the voice.

While Shion becomes pale, Renya surveys the vicinity vigilantly, but in the space of the garden, that doesn't even have the sound of weeds and tree leaves swaying, only the low laughter of a woman can be heard.

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"R-Renyaaa..." (Shion)
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"Don't use such pathetic voice." (Renya)

The laughter gradually become louder. Before long it changes into a loud laughter as if gone crazy with a *gera gera* (T/N: sound for loud, hoarse laughter/giggling)

Shion jumped at Renya's left shoulder on the verge of tears, but she doesn't do something like dropping the meal, she held with her hands.

While instinctively praising her as admirable, Renya embraced Shion's waist with his left arm in order to calm her down.

"It appeared! It's a ghost, Renya!" (Shion)

Clinging to Renya's shoulder with all her might, Shion was shaking that shoulder, but maybe because of the difference in body weight and strength, Renya's body doesn't move even a bit no matter how much Shion shakes it.

It was completely a scene one might imagine as a kitten rampaging and clinging to a large tree.

"Hmm? Surely it looks real, but..." (Renya)

Within the ongoing laughter, while embracing Shion, Renya indifferently muttered,

"But, with it only being laughter, isn't it nothing but annoying?" (Renya)

Once Renya's words, which he stated carelessly, entered Shion's ears, she needed several blinks until her brain comprehended them to be words.

"Eh?" (Shion)

Pressing her face into Renya's shoulder, Shion was on the verge of panic, however she looked up at Renya's face with an expression as if she had heard something in Renya's words she can't believe.

Tossing the remaining bread, which was left in his right hand, into his mouth, Renya slowly chewed and then gulped it down. While wondering whether he had said something strange, he continues his words,

"Certainly, since this will be unbearable at the time of sleeping, there's some kind of counter-plan necessary, but basically it's harmless, right?" (Renya)

Did she hear Renya's word being fixated on the noise being a bother to the neighbourhood? The woman's loud laughter suddenly stopped.

At the same time Renya is attacked by countless pebbles, making small sounds of cutting the wind, from all over the garden.

While holding onto Shion, who has tightly closed her eyes, Renya, who drew his katana with his right hand, strikes the pebbles, coming flying one after the other, not with the blade but the back of the katana making them drop.

"After laughter, pebbles come flying? Isn't that called a poltergeist?" (Renya)

What rolled around on the ground after being stricken and dropping are small stones.

Those are likely everywhere in the garden. That's nothing to be afraid of or even something particularly unusual.

"Well, what will appear next?" (Renya)

Ahead of the gaze of Renya, who poses such question, many blueish-white shadows of people, obviously gushing out of the gaps in the weeds, could be seen standing up while their forms swayed with a wobbling.

Even if they are slimy, unable to have their faces distinguished, they raise their voices into a roar as if fully loading their resentments towards all living into the their voices.

Being pierced in the head by the silver blade, which was thrust out as if penetrating the darkness of the night, they scattered.

Even as he holds Shion, who is still clinging to him with closed eyes, with only his left arm, Renya apparently doesn't consider something like dropping the speed of his charge.

To say nothing about the ground being overgrown with weeds.

Without knowing the state of the ground, he charges at, he should get obstructed in his movements by the freely extending weeds certainly twining themselves around his feet.

"See, they can be killed, can't they?" (Renya)

Placing a sentiment similar to having signs of regret in his voice, he doesn't even show any interest in the scattering blueish-white light.

While enjoying the fragrance and sensation of Shion, who is pressed into his left body half, Renya thrust the katana at a countless number of appeared shadows of people

and laughed.

"Well then, let's get on with the major cleanup, shall we?" (Renya)

CHAPTER 39

IT SEEMS TO BE THE CONTINUATION OF THE NIGHT AT THE DESERTED HOUSE

Shion's body has quite the height. Moreover it was muscular as might be expected of someone being trained fairly well, but even carrying her under his left arm, was no more than to the extent of her being luggage, which doesn't bother him.

He wasn't able to perceive whether it might also be connected to her having no weapons except the long sword, however for Renya it was truly convenient that she hasn't put on any kind of armour.

Meaning, she touches his own body at various places all over at the times of him brandishing the katana, at the times of him charging and at the times of suddenly braking.

To say it completely bluntly, he is able to freely enjoy various sensations of her breasts, belly and hips touching him or separating from him and grazing him lightly or pressing onto him.

Renya considers Rona not being here as good from the bottom of his heart.

As it's fine to not worry about people's gazes, he simply enjoys it to his heart's content.

Fortunately the place of the battle is the garden, which is big in it's own way. The space is extending to a degree that it's alright for him to not mind his surroundings too much, even if he jumps, runs or circles around.

Renya runs around within that space.

The appearing blueish-white shadows of people, some of them are cut in a manner of slashing the katana diagonally from the shoulder in passing, others are impaled, sliced in three pieces, chopped up, without concentrating on any technique and disorderly, all of them scatter and vanish.

If those were the souls of the women, who were murdered in this place, they are

probably bound to this location as departed spirits and they likely cursed having shown up here tonight.

If they were mere shadows of the former merchant's self, they likely wanted to question whether they committed such a big crime to deserve this.

Without taking any notice of either option, Renya chops up the shadows.

"Aah... this won't do..." (Renya)

Manipulating Shion within his left arm, he hides her from getting cut by a lucky hit.

Looking up at the sky, Renya laughs.

"It's no problem in any way."

He has a hunch that the muscles of his entire body are screaming and making sounds of creaking with a *gichi gichi*

It's not a voice of protest regarding him having overused them.

It's the sound of his own physique.

It's a feeling similar to a structure, which was soaking in a lukewarm dullness, being rewritten into a cold, firm structure.

"I'm able to wield the katana to my heart's content though." (Renya)

Without him realizing, his hanging mouth's corners rise.

Losing the colours in his view, a more vivid image pops up with a part of unnecessary information having vanished.

There are still much more targets.

He gets excited as soon as he cut.

"It's unbearably enjoyable..." (Renya)

Renya suddenly comes to his senses partway through releasing the the violent

emotions within him.

There were two reasons for that.

One is because Shion, whom he is carrying in his left arm, was apparently raising painful groans, albeit only slightly.

It seems he unintentionally exerted too much pressure.

The breathing of Shion, whom he has been holding tightly with a strength close to killing her by strangling, got rough.

Second, small screams could be heard from within the building.

As far Renya knows, there's no one but Shion and himself able to speak within these grounds.

If it was mixed among the departed spirit-like things, which are swaying with a *yura yura* in front of his eyes, it wouldn't have that extent, but the scream, which Renya's ears caught, were certainly those of a little girl.

"Renyaa..." (Shion)

Roughly breathing within his arm, Shion called out to him.

Renya fears that the strangling has gotten too tight at last.

But, her next words stop Renya's thinking.

"More..." (Shion)

Unsatisfied with just loosening his arm reflexively, he ended up throwing her on the ground, albeit gently.

That likely doesn't mean that it changed into an opportunity, but the blueish-white shadows of people, surrounding the two, immediately after having largely swayed with a single shaking, vanished as if the flame of a candle was blown out.

He surveyed the interior of the grounds, which regained its silence, by rotating around. Once Renya confirmed that there was nothing that looked like it might become a

threat, Shion, who was messily* thrown on the ground, raised a voice of protest. (T/N: \checkmark 5is a sfx and can mean soaked, drenched, gooey, messy in this situation, chose messy)

"Renya, looking at my cloudy eyes here, won't it turn into a shocking or a dizzying scene?" (Shion)

"Ah, sorry. I received an instant chill wondering whether you were a masochist." (Renya)

"Don't you consider a masochistic woman as charming?" (Shion)

"Shut up and be silent! First somehow deal with your attribute of being disappointing." (Renya)

Once he casually brushes away Shion, who came clinging to him all of a sudden, she once again falls messily* down to the ground.

"Muuh... well enough of that." (Shion)

Standing up abruptly, Shion faces in the direction of the building while shaking off the dirt, attached to her body, with a *pon pon* (T/N: tapping)

"Was there someone in there?" (Shion)

"Did you hear that?" (Renya)

Shion answers while turning around and putting her hands against her hips due to Renya making a face saying "That's completely unexpected."

By her look she realized Renya's low evaluation of her and got slowly displeased.

"Even I heard that. It was a scream like that of a small girl, but wasn't she just scared of you, Renya?" (Shion)

"No, well, certainly I believe that the stimulus of the view of me wielding my katana is powerful for a child, but... There wasn't anyone besides us in the building, was there?" (Renya)

"Isn't it possible that a lost child might have gone astray?" (Shion)

"There won't be no end, if we debated possibilities. Shouldn't we try to investigate the interior once again...?" (Renya)

From behind of Renya, who sheathed the katana in its scabbard and tried to walk towards the entrance of the building, Shion called him to halt.

Once he turns around wondering what it might be, Shion, with an expression as if she was somehow in a pinch, is trying to reach out her hands towards Renya.

"What's up?" (Renya)

"I feel dizzy from being swung around too much and can't walk..." (Shion)

Once he is told that and lowers his sight below, he surely grasps that the area around Shion's knees is trembling with a *puru puru* (T/N: slightly trembling, jiggle)

Although she has kept up a calm-looking expression, it looked like she is somehow unable to fix her sight's focus.

I might have gone too far, Renya feels sorry for a short while.

When he heard that she can't walk at the beginning, Renya considered whether to go there by himself, but, as expected, on top of him being the cause for that, he felt guilty about leaving her alone in a state of being unable to move in a garden, which is infested with ghosts Shion is weak against.

"Do you want me to drag you along?" (Renya)

Kakun Shion dropped her shoulders. (*T/N: sfx for losing strength*)

He considered that the way of him carrying a woman might be too violent.

After resisting her trembling knees and somehow reorganizing her posture, Shion points at Renya with a finger,

"I want a princess carry!" (Shion)

"Alright, follow me once you reached the point of being able to move, okay?" (Renya)

"Sorry, it's a lie! Don't abandon me~! Don't leave me alone~! However, at least carry

me on your back or carry me like a baby in your arms, at worst carry me under your arm like just now~!" (Shion)

"Isn't a princess carry or such the dream of every woman!?" Due to complaining about it with teary eyes, Renya lowered his hips a bit and turned his back towards her after shrugging his shoulders once.

"Here, get on!" (Renya)

"Ah, yea. Thanks..." (Shion)

Nervously putting her arms around Renya's neck, she slowly entrusts her weight to him.

Giving a single "Alley oop", Renya, who was carrying Shion on his back, slowly walked towards the building.

"Do you know from where the voice came?" (Shion)

"Probably in the vicinity of the workshop. The window there, that faced towards the garden, was open." (Renya)

She saw it well for being swung around this much, Renya raises his evaluation of Shion, though only a bit.

It might be a result of coincidence, but it was also true that it wouldn't change my feeling that she will sooner or later sink to a level, where you would loose sight of her after she broke through the deepest bottom, if I don't raise her evaluation once in a while.

Passing the entrance hall, they enter the room from the workshop's entrance.

With Renya's cast magic light shining inside, Renya, who lowered Shion from his back making sure to lean her against the wall, notices the figure of a person having collapsed lying with her face on the ground.

"What's this?" (Renya)

Having cut and evened up her flaxen hair around the shoulders and wearing a twotoned, black and white, coloured dress on her body, it was a little girl in a maid dress, if you describe her in a few words.



However, what caused Renya to raise his voice in surprise was that he at first considered the possibility of her having lost her way, if that little girl is a normal girl, but the little girl's height is far smaller than Renya's and Shion's. Measuring it with the eyes, it was less than 1 m.

She had the shape of a child too, however the hands, feet and such composing the little girl are quite small and thin, even more so than those of children. And yet, it's visible that her head and body don't seem to have a great difference to those of adult women.

How to do I say it? It's impossible to describe her as anything but an adult woman in maid clothes, who is more than two times as small.

Furthermore, the shape of her ears had a characteristic different to humans.

The girl's ears are thin and pointed. They had quite the length, if compared with humans.

The word elf crosses one's mind, but if this is one of the elves in this world, I can't imagine anything but them living in a place similar to a country of fairly small midgets.

"Hey, Shion. Are those called elves midgets?" (Renya)

"Don't you know about elves, Renya? Their chests are strangely small with them having around the same height as us." (Shion)

Just to be sure, Renya tries to turn over the thing lying on its face.

The girl didn't wake up even as he is touching her body.

She even somehow looked as if she's having a nightmare, but she is unable to respond to the examination hereafter. Once he looks at the turned-over girl, even if the area around her breast is tiny, there is a bulge at the level unable to be described as small.

"It's not small." (Renya)

"I believe you should give up on contours of an elf, but... Isn't that a silky, I wonder?" (Shion)

<Information: Help function – Silkies are fairies, or beings, who haunt houses and are considered to be a kind of ghost. They have various appearances but mostly they will</p>

take the form of a little girls. They will help with things like housework and are generally blessed with a beautiful appearance. It's necessary to be cautious since they also take actions to expulse the residents by magic such as illusionary and manipulative spells, in case they aren't pleased with the residents of the house. They have a nature of trying to maintain the condition of the house to their best ability.>

"I see? Aren't you quite knowledgeable about such things." (Renya)

Once Renya mentions it while scanning over the message of the popped-up helpfunction, Shion answered while being slightly bashful,

"I remembered it from them emerging in a book or such, I got to read during my childhood. Although they will protect the house, as fairies skilful at housework, if they are pleased with the residents, they will leave the rooms in a mess, destroy things or cause harassment, if they are displeased." (Shion)

"Fairy? Isn't she a ghost?" (Renya)

"She is a fairy. You can't touch ghosts, can you?" (Shion)

Certainly, I just touched her body to turn her over moments ago.

Renya was slowly getting puzzled by the classification of her being a fairy, if you can touch her, and a ghost, if you can't, but he decides to accept that this is likely the way it works for the inhabitants of the world over here.

"However, why has a fairy fallen over and fainted at this place?" (Renya)

"To begin with, it's the first time I heard about something like a fairy fainting, but... the place isn't that strange, don't you agree? This is the interior of the house after all." (Shion)

No mater how skilled they might be at housework or how much of a beauty they are, there's probably no meaning in haunting a deserted house, where there's no people either, Renya thinks.

Putting such impression aside for now, the remaining issue is whether it's possible to understand each other, but we won't be able to hear the circumstances of the other party anyway unless she wakes up.

Placing his hand softly on her body, which looks like it would break, if touched, he tries to shake her as gently as possible.

Shion, who leaned against the wall, unintentionally leaked a laugh due to Renya's manner of using his hand somehow timidly.

"..." (Renya)

Once he has shaken her several times, the little girl's eyes slowly open.

The colour of her pupils is a transparent jade green. Once she became aware of Renya's figure, right after opening her eyelids weakly, her consciousness might have swiftly returned as she opened her eyes widely and got up halfway.

Just like that she tries to get away from Renya in a panic, however maybe her body won't do as told or it's only because she has no strength in her arms to stand up, but she crawls on the floor to take distance from Renya.

Having a hunch that there's something extremely wrong going by her state, Renya sat down cross-legged on the floor and tossed the removed sword belt to Shion.

After confirming that Shion has caught it, Renya calls out to the little girl, who is still trying to get away.

"Look, I don't have anything dangerous on me anymore. It's alright even without becoming so frightened. We have no intention to harm you." (Renya)

"... Leave this place!"

Did she end up getting tired from taking distance with only her arm's power? Ceasing to crawl, she turned towards Renya and raised her voice.

Renya, who verified that it's possible to understand each other with words, talks slowly in order to not provoke the other party.

"It depends on the reason. If you have an agreeable reason, we will leave this place." (Renya)

"This place is my house \sim damono!" (T/N: might infer protest or indicate reason ... or it might mean "trash" $^{\wedge}$)

"Shion, just to make sure, is the ownership of plots, houses or such deemed acceptable for fairies?" (Renya)

"Fairies, you say, Renya? There's probably no way that it will be recognised." (Shion)

"This place is my house! After all, I was born here ~damono!"

Due to Shion speaking as if being fed up, the little girl speaks as if snapping at her.

"It's fine without you making a fuss. While it may be true that you can't be recognised, we won't particularly do something like forcibly removing you. We won't make you work for us either. Can you please explain from the beginning because my perceptiveness is poor? Umm... talking will become easier, if you tell us your name as well, though." (Renya)

Renya, who decided that he should likely behave modestly here, tried to ask the little girl for her name as well as an explanation.

"When asking for someone's name..."

"Ah, start by naming yourself, it is. Renya Kunugi and over there is Shion. The two of us are adventurers. Please take care of us." (Renya)

"... name, none..."

Turning down her face quietly, the little girl muttered in a small voice at a level that it was still possible to understand it somehow.

CHAPTER 40

IT SEEMS TO BE THE PROCUREMENT OF A BASE OF ACTIVITY

The little girl, who was in a state of letting her head hang slightly, began to explain piece by piece. (T/N: *potsu potsu*)

It was around three years ago when the little girl became conscious in this house.

"I was in the basement of this house."

"This house has a basement?" (Renya)

"There's a hidden door in the floor of the workshop."

She, who was born in total darkness, without even a single light, in a place stinking of dust, left towards the surface by going up the stairs without even sensing anything about that place because of her fairy body.

"In truth I should have been greeted by my family there or such."

"It's because it was a deserted house already. Is it normal for a silky to be born in a deserted house?" (Renya)

"I don't know. I haven't met any other silkies."

The house had already fallen into that state and the garden was overgrown with weeds, too.

She wanted to begin the maintenance and cleaning of that desolated house as silky, if possible, however following something like the instinct of a fairy here, it was not enough to stop her actions.

"Silkies like me are basically fairies, who help their families. Otherwise we will only be able to change our behaviour after we have granted the requests of the family."

"There was no family making those requests though."

As result of that she wasn't able to pick any other method but to \(\text{maintain the status} \) quo of the house \(\text{, which is one more task for a silky.} \)

For the sake of maintaining the status quo of the house, it's necessary to prevent people entering the grounds as much as possible.

If people enter, the present state of 「deserted house」 will end up changing.

Originally she should quickly have someone live in that house, act as their assistant and have them request something, however her having been born into a house with the status of being deserted from the start resulted in a contradiction.

Although she has realized that in her brain, she is unable to change her behaviour.

Her instinct as silky fairy, ending up functioning like some kind of curse, could be called a rare precedent.

Although one might say that a silky in itself is a fairy, who isn't suited for combat, and has no more than simple magic, she can use, she acts in order to defend against intruders.

Since the race called fairies consist basically of mana, she could abundantly use it to some degree.

But, if she were to fight openly against humans, she would probably end up getting destroyed quickly.

Considering that, she coincidentally hears about the ghost story of that merchant due to the real estate person, who came to the area of the house to lead around clients, talking of it and decided for it to be usable.

Fairies, who are considered as mischievous, are proficient at simple manipulation and invisibility spells as well as illusion and auditory hallucination spells.

She believed that normal people won't likely get close, if it's spooky, once she prepares the stage of a property, having a cursed history as told by the real estate person, by using these spells freely.

"And there, such an oddball like Renya ended up appearing." (Shion)

"Shion, I will scold you severely afterwards." (Renya)

"Oddball..."

"Don't repeat that, fairy. Certainly, I can't deny that I came here in delight after hearing that it's a property, where ghosts come out, though." (Renya)

Due to the fairy trying to slightly get away from Renya, he spit out these words alongside a sigh wondering whether she has some amount of self-awareness.

On reflex, was her behaviour, huh? Due to the fairy correcting her sitting on the ground looking slightly awkward, Renya opened his mouth while pondering Now then, how should I negotiate with her, I wonder.

"So, you know, I've been pondering whether to buy this property." (Renya)

The taken-aback fairy fixes her eyes on Renya.

Renya is unable to determine whether refusal or acceptance was reflected in her eyes, but it won't do if he doesn't tell her what ought to be said first and continues the way of talking similar to making her understand his words as gently as possible.

"Of course, if you insist here on absolutely not changing the deserted status of the house and refuse no matter what, I will also take into consideration to search for another property. I don't really know anything about silkies and such, but are they beings that can keep existing by continuing to protect a deserted house?" (Renya)

The fairy shook her head.

Just as I thought, huh? Renya thinks.

Based on Shion's talk and the message of the help function, the fairy, haunting this house, is expected to preserve her existence by mingling with the residents of the house.

Unexpectedly that is also including the contradiction of depending on eviction, if she isn't pleased with the other party.

However, there's probably no mistake in the fact that it won't work, if she has no connections with people, Renya guessed.

And, if that's correct, won't this fairy, who determinedly keeps on protecting a deserted house, continue to weaken, though I don't know how fast, until she ends up vanishing before long?

"If that's how it is, I think I want to live here, even if it might be a bit pushy, but..." (Renya)

If the fairy starts to threaten us again according to her instinct of wanting to maintain the status quo, if we also make her surrender forcibly like this time and if we live here temporarily, it will turn into the original state of her wanting to be the helper of the family, was what Renya expected, but the fairy shook here head left and right to that as well.

"No good?" (Renya)

"No, well... I was defeated being a hindrance once. Therefore, currently my desire to maintain the status quo vanished following your will of wanting to live here."

"Well, then it will simply end, once we live here afterwards?" (Renya)

"Yea, but..."

The fairy looks at Renya as if hesitating a bit.

As Renya wondered whether there was still some problem remaining, the fairy nervously came out with it,

"Will you be able to live in such suspicious mansion?"

"I want to flatly decline that." (Shion)

Before Renya could open his mouth, Shion cut in and shrugged her shoulders at being glared at by Renya.

As the fairy gets close to crying due to Shion's answer, Renya, in order to soothe her, says,

"We have another companion. Although we have to consult with her as well, I basically believe that we will live here." (Renya)

"Is that so!? I shall wait for you, master!"

Renya gently stroke the fairy's head while showing a complicated expression and Shion laughed at length for some reason due to the words directed at Renya by the fairy, who says them with her face brightening up in a flash.

After that Renya and Shion pass the night without sleeping until morning as they can't be bothered to do so and head to the inn, where Rona waits, once dawn breaks.

Explaining the circumstances, they asked for Rona's opinion, however having received an answer that she doesn't particularly mind it, if both of them are fine with it, they hurry to the real estate agent.

Seeing the two come back in high spirits, albeit looking like they lack sleep, the real estate agent was surprised as that was something that didn't happen until now. But his expression broke into a smile when Renya, who hid the matter about the fairy, told him that he would buy it as no ghosts came out in particular.

Going by what the real estate agent says, so far the people, who showed interest in that property, have run into ghosts, without even a single exception. It seems to have changed from a sellable to an unsellable, inferior property among the ones, the real estate agent owns.

Due to the real estate agent taking a breath of relief and at last having a weight removed from his mind because Renya said that he would buy it, Renya opens the negotiations by telling the real estate agent that he should offer a little bit of service to him, the buyer, if he has been troubled by it this much.

The real estate agent and Renya argued with humming and hawing before Shion, who watched intently while being amazed how someone could have such energy in a state of not having slept until dawn. In the end the real estate agent gave in and it resulted in a lump-sum payment in advance and it being fine to pay the remaining sum in instalments whenever they have money without any urging.

Taking out the money from the [Inventory] and paying the money to the real estate agent, Renya stores the written contract in exchange.

Receiving the key once again, the two hurry to the inn.

Renya carries Shion, who used up all her strength and succumbed to the sleepiness on

the way, on his back, and reports the sealing of the sales contract to Rona after getting back to the inn. Returning to the inn, right after arriving there, the three, including Rona this time as well, head to the house he just bought.

Rona raised doubts while moving due to Renya proceeding in quite the impatient manner, but for the time being there was a reason for this forced schedule.

Renya doesn't know about the fairies in the world over here, however if one were to speak of fairies, a somewhat capricious impression sticks to them.

Although he was, for the time, accepted to the extent of being called master, he had a feeling that it's not unimaginable for that fairy to even tell him to redo it all over from the beginning if he takes too much time.

Once they have reached their destination, he introduces Rona to the fairy and declares that it had been decided for them to live here officially from now on.

"In line with this, since we will buy new replacements for the previous furnitures and such, I request you to cooperate." (Renya)

"Yes! Please leave it to me!"

Shion raised a comfortable sleeper's breathing on the back of Renya, who feels relived for having accomplished his mission for now after looking at the face of the fairy, who smiled cheerfully.

Next Rona and the fairy show their excellence to Renya and Shion hereafter.

First Rona has requested the supplying of new items, the disposal of the stuff, that can't be sold, the sale of the stuff, that can be sold and the transportation of the old furniture to workers and merchants, she suddenly brought along out of nowhere.

While Renya has been bewildered, she coordinates with the merchants things like the positioning, numbers and specifications of the small furnitures. Lining up the carried-in items, she negotiates the amount of money and chooses even the method of payment.

The money on hand, Renya has, almost hit rock bottom, but over here Rona was cutting through her own savings and put out the payments.

"I will live here too, after all. If that's the case, it will be better for it to be comfortable. ... It will become a loan for Renya, too." (Rona)

When she added the last words in a whisper, Renya felt a chill travel along his spine, he has never felt before.

On the other side, the fairy was largely helpful in the tidying up of the house.

At the beginning Renya was worried whether it will be alright, even if the merchants and others, coming and going, see her appearance, but at the time the three decided to live in this house, the fairy's appearance of around 10 years old had changed into that of a girl in a maid dress.

Somehow it seemed that fairies had an appropriate personal appearance with a height of common people, but apparently her size decreased as her power was weakening over the many years of living in a deserted house.

"That, hadn't it reached quite the dangerous point?" (Renya)

"Yea, but I was somehow able to preserve, since there was disgusting food."

Renya cocks his head in puzzlement due to the words of the fairy.

In the first place, I wonder just what the heck are fairies eating?

"We are basically changing mana into food. We are haunting houses in order to receive mana, which naturally gets released by the family, as food."

"... Somehow I've got a bad premonition, however what's that disgusting food?" (Renya)

"The grudges of the person, who was apparently executed in the garden."

Hearing that, Shion becomes pale and Rona laughs feebly.

It had apparently manifested halfway in a corner of the house at the time the fairy became conscious, but the soul of the merchant, which was on the verge of becoming an evil spirit and could be easily called a lump of mana, ended up vanishing by being chewed piece by piece guaranteeing the food supply for the fairy, albeit having an extremely poor quality.

"I wonder, do you call such stuff retributive justice?" (Renya)

"Something like the happiness of a serial murderer in the next world doesn't matter aaa~t all." (Rona)

"Since he ended up disappearing, he didn't even fall to hell. Wasn't that rather lucky?" is the remark of Rona, that will cause one to wonder whether that's how a priest should think.

The fairy, who recovered quite a bit of power, called a wind and blew the trash and dust all over the house into the garden in one go. Moreover, she pruned the tree's branches, which grew as they liked, and the weeds with wind blades.

Due to the magnificence of her performance, Shion and Renya, who were told that such thing was completely unrelated to combat potential, have absolutely no choice but watch in admiration.

In the end the trash has piled up to a small mountain in the garden and Shion ignites and burns the trash mountain while Renya is digging a hole in a corner of the garden.

Throwing the ashes into the hole, Renya dug, they plugged up the hole and with that a series of uproars came to a close.

It was an event of mere two days from the time Renya decided to buy it until now.

After having finished, all of them currently ended up laying dead tired on top of the newly provided leather-covered sofa.

Among them only the fairy is full of spirit. She prepared tea and tea snacks for the resting three, but before long she comes next to Renya.

"Master! The work hasn't finished yet!"

"There's something... left?" (Renya)

Shaking the shoulder of the inquiring Renya, the fairy said,

"A name, please! I will be troubled to be called fairy forever!"

"A name..." (Renya)

For an instant names such as Hanami or Tama appear and disappear in his head, but he denies those in a hurry.

She's no dog or cat after all, frantically mobilising his tired brain, Renya comes up with a single name. It was accepted with a single reply by the happy fairy.

Thus Renya obtained a house with a garden and workshop attached. The domestic fairy, Frau Verde (T/N: >> Furau = Verude <<), who haunted the house, was turned into a companion.

CHAPTER 41

IT SEEMS TO BE AZ-SAN, ONCE AGAIN

"I came to look since I heard you bought a house. You obviously went all out, too." (Az)

Is what Az, who entrusted his back restfully to the upper half of the parlour's sofa, said while looking around the room's interior.

Atop the table an assorted basket, which Az brought as present, of fruits has been placed.

Saying it just in case, but is it because of his nature matches well with that of a teacher? Previously he wore a grey robe, but this time it's a finely tailored black robe with silver accessories attached all over. It was a dress you could indeed call that of a magician.

What Az brought is an assorted basked mainly filled with citrus and mandarin types of fruits. Those are pesticide-free fruits, which can be eaten completely even including the skin, which wasn't recommended overly much to be eaten in Renya's former world due to agricultural chemicals and such.

After he got tired of eating them completely down to the skin, Renya instructs Frau to put them into the foodstuff preservation cellar in the kitchen.

The foodstuff preservation cellar, managed by the silky, was under the complete control of Frau's magic up to the frightening level of regulating the temperature by moisture.

In other words, be it refrigeration or freezing, either way can be dealt with. Moreover, in order to mature meat, be it by dry ageing or wet ageing, it's in an anything-goes state.

At the time he was told that fact by Frau, Renya praised himself with "It's really great I bought it."

"Though, as it is, there are still debts left. Oh well, I think it's necessary granted that you want to do something about a base of activity." (Renya)

"That's true. You have to start from somewhere. It's important to have a place you can call home. ... However, be that as it may..." (Az)

Az vocalizes his amazement while watching the girl in maid dress, who prepares the tea, while freely using a stool to stand on due to her insufficient height, behind Renya, who is sitting on the other side of the sofa, and then passes the arranged tea across the sofa.

"They increased by one more again. Moreover, a fairy, huh? ... Do you actually plan to create a harem?" (Az)

As expected of a magician, are they experts at those types of beings? Az guessed Frau's identity correctly with just a single glance.

There was a period, when Renya hesitated a bit whether he should reveal Frau in front of people, but as a result of consulting with Rona, he was given the answer that it's impossible for him to say anything as the existence of fairies itself isn't something as unusual in proportion to the rarity of the Lost.

It appears to be possible to raise the price of a house because of a silky possessing it, if it's before the purchase, however it's impossible to do so once the official contract has been exchanged no matter what the reason might be after the purchase.

"Don't say something scandalous! In the first place, if I made a move on that child, that will be a crime, right?" (Renya)

Although Renya was frowning, he ended up frowning even more hearing Az' following answer.

"For nobles and such it isn't unusual to even do something like marriage, once they are past 10 years in age, no? If it's only the engagement, that will be decided from the time they are born. Besides, something like a middle-aged noble, who exceeded 30 years, marrying a 12 years old daughter of a lower noble and making children with her is commonplace." (Az)

"Being able to get well used to such thinking... that's a point I can only admire." (Renya)

"There's also the aspect of it being partially a duty, but won't it also become a great way to earn some money? The sale of that kind of medicine, that is." (Az)

"Medicines to make the arousal more potent, medicines to lengthen the ability to continue or something like that are very popular", Az laughs.

There's also high demand for this sort of medicines. It seems to be a business with good revenue.

"Is that legal?" (Renya)

"Of course? Aren't they even properly submitting requests to the guild for the gathering of ingredients?" (Az)

Due to Az telling him "try taking it, if you are troubled with money", Renya judged he absolutely wouldn't take such request.

At least it's not a request where I can take Shion and Rona along.

Frau, who is waiting on us in the back, should be called a fairy after all, huh? Her face's colour doesn't even change the slightest hearing this kind of talks.

"Speaking of money, you bought such house. Won't the number of necessary things increase in accordance to that?" (Az)

"Guess so. There are also the costs of maintenance. As it is necessary to return the debts, too, there isn't enough money, no matter how much we earn." (Renya)

"Though I think it's quite a lax contract. Something like paying the loan instalments whenever you happen to have money without any pressuring, that is." (Az)

Az partially talks as if to say that it's even fine to shirk the payments of the contract.

Certainly, because it's not pressing, it's a contract where we can feel at ease not paying forever, if we end up declaring that we are still unable to pay eternally.

However, Renya didn't want to do something profitable as that.

Even if it's not necessary to hurry with the repayment, he has decided to repay it without letting too much time pass.

If I consider myself to be in the shoes of the merchant, I would lose profit, the longer the payment is postponed.

That will end up annoying the merchant.

"In fact I came here today to congratulate you for buying the house, but, apart from that, there's also a single matter I want to borrow your strength for. Of course, you will get money for it." (Az)

"A mediation of work? I'm thankful for that, however what kind of work is it?" (Renya)

There's a different sense of security getting a type of request from Az, whom he knows, rather than a request from some stranger.

Though there's nothing to say, if the pay is good as well, I don't expect too much out of it. If it isn't an overly cruel story and since he isn't an unknown broker, I think it might be fine to accept, Renya is thinking.

"I think you are aware that I'm working as a teacher at the school to train adventurers." (Az)

"Well, it's something you told me about at the time we separated." (Renya)

"Yea, that's it. The class, I was in charge off, was a class with many noble sons and daughters, but... a small problem has cropped up." (Az)

"Is it a problem of the other party being noble...?" (Renya)

Renya's expression turns bitter.

To begin with, Renya has no good impression related to the word noble.

Repeatedly taking into account that it's a prejudice, Renya is holding an image of them being a gathering of cowards, being underhanded with money and authority, looking down on commoners and having a discomforting manner of talking and acting.

Of course there's likely nobles, to whom this doesn't apply too, but Renya's point is that those are a rare species.

"The problem, I'm talking about, is that the teachers in charge for each curriculum at school change, but the teacher, who was in charge of the combat training, lost to a student..." (Az)

Because it's a teacher related to actual fighting, it's extremely difficult to gather good people on top of there being too few candidates.

I don't believe that the knights in active duty and adventurers want to become something like teachers, where they won't earn as much money. Given that the act of raising the next generation will only increase the number of competitors struggling to earn some money for the adventurers and since it hasn't any kind of appeal for knights, there hardly exist any people expressly pursuing that occupation.

Naturally those becoming teachers at the school are people, whose party ended up getting destroyed like Az, or those, who gave up quickly as it was extremely unlikely for them to become successful as adventurers or knights; mostly it's those who are second-rate or third-rate, if you want to phrase it badly.

And yet, as for the level in technique of those attending the school, though they rarely fall behind and it's even a lot rarer for a teacher to appear, who loses to a student.

It's true that there are those among the sons and daughters of nobles, who have already acquired a higher level of skill at the time of enrolling at school due to being trained by their father or mother, who are soldiers, before going to the school.

Moreover, in the particular case of such people they have a family lineage of being military personnel continuing for many generations or they have a family, where a great number of court magicians appeared one after the other. The ability of those students towers above the rest.

Given such situation, a third-rate adventurer won't be able to pull through with their experience, which might exists or not, and it will result in them being exposed to the mess of having tragically lost to a student.

"That is quite embarrassing and a teacher won't be able to stand that." (Renya)

"Just because there's a difference in combat strength, they don't have to declare that they don't want to be taught by the teacher, right? The teacher might be third-rate, but they should still be able to learn things from someone, who lived their life as adventurer." (Az)

Renya couldn't imagine the topics, which were taught, but as there might actually be something since Az is stressing it to this level, he isn't going to pursue the matter too deeply.

"However, since it's an opponent, they were defeated by once, people have appeared, who don't feel like attending the class as there's nothing to learn or such. It's troublesome." (Az)

"That doesn't particularly mean they are skipping your class though, right Az?" (Renya)

"You aren't especially troubled yourself, are you, Az?" When Renya mentioned that, Az scratched his head as if being slightly stumped.

"Surely, it's not me who is troubled, but..." (Az)

With a mood drifting about as if it is hard for him to tell the reason, he roughly scratches his head.

I think it might be better to not pursue this too much either, judging that, Renya decided to change the topic.

"Well, this much is fine with me. What do you want me to do and what are the conditions for the job?" (Renya)

"Mm? Ah, that is, you know, I want you to crush the arrogant attitude of the class' students. In a combat training in the style of an actual fight." (Az)

According to Az' explanation a special barrier is set up in the field, which is used for the school combat training. It seems that no matter what kind of terrible injury is caused, it won't go past being one step short of death.

In other words, for the sake of thoroughly smashing the pride of the noble sons and daughters, who became disobedient, he wants me to viciously beat them to the degree, that they won't ever again think of belittling a teacher, in that combat practice field as request.

"Is that a proper request you should ask for as a teacher...?" (Renya)

"The other party doesn't listen to what they are told. Once you carve into their bodies and minds that there's always someone above them, it will be the teacher's

responsibility, I guess." (Az)

"And if it's you, who does it, Az?" (Renya)

"It will also be fine if I do it, but I'm not very good at close combat. Therefore I was protected during our jobs. For me there would be nothing else but striking them with fatal magic on the first attack, if such me wanted to do something about those guys. Even with this I have a feeling that I would be able to handle it one way or the other, but if, in worst case, they brought it into close combat, I would have no chance at winning." (Az)

Different from warrior types, who can fight as long as they are able to brandish their weapons, magicians, who have a necessity to cast, take a long time until they can attack in any way.

Moreover, because there are many magicians, who don't forge their bodies overly much, it's not a rare occurrence for them to suffer an embarrassing defeat, even by lower-ranked close combat classes, if the opponent approaches too close in distance during their casting time.

"That's the point. While you are an able swordsman, you can also deal with magic, Renya. Even in the worst case, it won't result in you falling behind the levels of the school's students, no?" (Az)

"Yea, well, probably." (Renya)

Even if he ends up changing the weapon to a practise sword or such, Renya had absolutely no intention to be defeated by bratty opponents, who are still at the level of attending a school.

In truth, given that it's not like there's a big difference in age between the current Renya and them, the students, whom he called brats, would be likely offended if they heard that.

"Though you might have a reluctant feeling about it, can I somehow request that of you, Renya?" (Az)

Az suddenly bends himself forward and bows his head.

It wasn't a request that he was overly eager to do and somehow it could be even called

bullying the weak, but if it's a request to the degree of making Az even bow his head, Renya isn't able to show an attitude of refusing it off-handedly.

Nevertheless, as he is also certain that he won't be able to find any meaning in something like a sham battle, where there's no doubt that he will be able to win in the first place, he has absolutely no motivation to do it.

"If you accept this request, you will also be able to use the facilities of the school." (Az)

"I think there's nothing I want to use among the facilities of the school, but..." (Renya)

"What are you saying, Renya? That school, which trains adventurers, has the <Transfer Gate>, don't you know?" (Az)

"What's that?" (Renya)

"Man, you don't know the <Transfer Gate>?" (Az)

Az seems like he wants to say 'Why don't you know something like that?'

Which reminds me, I still haven't told Az about me being a Lost, Renya remembers.

"I'm actually a Lost." (Renya)

"Ho? That's how it was, eh? In that case it's only natural for you to not know about the <Transfer Gate>." (Az)

He didn't look like was overly astonished either.

Seeing the face of Renya, which looked somehow disappointed, Az said,

"Certainly, they are a rare existence, but so far all of them had been identified. Even if they came from a different world, it's nothing to be surprised about since they are basically the same humans like us, right?" (Az)

"That's just like you... So, what's the thing called the school's <Transfer Gate>?" (Renya)

"The <Transfer Gate> is a magical object, which took the shape of a gate. It's something superior allowing you to move to the other gate, which acts as pair, by crossing

through space to a distant place, no matter how far it might be. On top of being unable to move anywhere else but to the gate interacting with it as pair, it's something, that mostly hasn't been popularized as it takes quite the amount of magic gems for transferring even a single person with a single transfer. But, for the sake of the adventurer school to keep in touch with its fellow schools smoothly and comfortably, they have formed a transfer network by using transfer gates." (Az)

"Hmm?" (Renya)

"If you are granted a license for this, you will be able to move to almost the entire continent of the human race with transfer gates and on top of that there is also a transfer gate connecting to the western continent of the elves, which let's you skip the Forest of Miasma and the area of the demons, you know?" (Az)

"Whoa, that's amazing." (Renya)

Even if it has the limitation of transferring only one person, it's a transportation network that let's you even leap to the continent of the elves on top of allowing one to expect an exceptionally raised speed of travelling on the continent of the human race.

If I can get my hands on this ticket, even a job, I don't feel like doing, changes into a justifiable job with plenty of return.

"The time is limited to only a half day of a teaching day. The reward is a permit to use the transfer gate, I told you about just now, and one gold coin, which I will provide from my pocket. I'm sorry, but since I have tried to ask so that I will be given a discount, please pay the transfer gate's renting fee yourself, Renya." (Az)

"It's a lavish hospitality." (Renya)

Besides Az' desire for Renya to definitely accept the request even going as far as raising the rewards this much, it can be said that failure isn't permitted for this case. *I fear that it's likely that the reason for that is what he evaded to explain*, Renya estimated.

However, since those are circumstances on Az' side, it doesn't have anything to do with Renya for now.

"How is it? Can you accept?" (Az)

"It doesn't seem to be a bad deal. It looks like I will go by myself for the job itself. Okay,

I will take you up on it." (Renya)

Once Renya told him his intention to accept, Az showed an expression of relief.

"I'm thankful. With this I will have a weight removed from my mind. Since we have to adjust the schedule on our side, I will contact you later. Is that fine?" (Az)

"Got it. I'd like to ask you to arrange for it as quickly as possible since I'm currently free." (Renya)

Since he accepted it as job, it's will be impossible for him to take on other jobs.

If it takes too much time to adjust the schedule, Renya will be troubled as it will lengthen the time he can't take other work either.

"We will adjust it soon. Well then, given that I have to return to the school, please wait for my contact." (Az)

Once he got Renya's agreement, Az left such words and returned to the school at full speed.

"Something like coming to bow his head to master on behalf of others, he seems to be quite the nice person." (Frau)

Frau says while clearing up the tea, which Az left unfinished.

"Undoubtedly I believe that the troubled person is someone important to Az-san. That's why he went back in such hurry, I guess." (Frau)

I see, if that's the case, I can somehow understand why he evaded explaining, too, Renya clapped his knee.

Since I will likely meet to face with them at the time I'm undertaking the request, I will demand Az to explain it to me thoroughly then, while holding the tea, which more or less ended up becoming cool, Renya expressed a very happy smile.

CHAPTER 42

IT SEEMS TO BE THE SCHOOL'S ARENA

Kukrika's National Adventurer Training School has been built in a location furthest outside the residential area.

As building, which is located within the city, it possesses vast grounds ranking next to the military authorities, which are situated in the central ward. For some reason it is enclosed by a high wall and a deep moat. In order to enter the grounds there's no other way but to pass through the main gate.

Being guided by Az, the impressions of Renya, at the time he looked at the school from outside, gave him a vague image of it being like a prison, but once he looked around after entering inside, he got the impression that he had entered a fortress instead.

Once he mentioned it to Az, he received the answer that the adventurer school has been built in order to function as fortress with simple military installations in case something happened within the city.

"Allowing soldiers as students, isn't that the true state of affairs?" (Renya)

Az turns around with a slightly surprised face towards Renya, who spit out these words in a murmur.

Renya wondered whether he had said anything strange, but he somehow understood after listening to Az' words.

"No, that's because it's you, Renya. It's just that they will use anyone, if they are usable." (Az)

"Ah, well, basically that's right, but... I wonder why? I also have the common sense that a student's duty is to study after all, you know?" (Renya)

"I become uneasy, if you talk about something like common sense, Renya." (Az)

"I believe to be the one with the most common sense, except in regards to knowledge, in our party though." (Renya)

"That's a problem in itself though", Renya grumbled and Frau in maid form, being next to him, raised her voice in a small giggling laughter.

At the time of this time's job, Renya tentatively asked for Shion's and Rona's opinion at the moment he received Az' call, but when the two heard of the adventurer training school being the destination, they insisted on not wanting to accompany him on the job.

Even when he tried to ask for a reason, they persisted that they don't want to go, without giving a clear answer. Renya ended up wondering what the heck is it with that school, but Rona secretly told him the reason afterwards.

In this school, where many noble sons and daughters are attending, it's likely that there's someone knowing Shion's and Rona's background. That's the reason for the mutual refusal of both.

Once he assesses after being told so, Shion is certainly a daughter of some unknown high-class family and Rona accompanied her as knight. Renya had a feeling that he heard that story quite some time ago.

"Please don't forget. It's a quite important matter." (Rona)

Rona displays an extremely dissatisfied expression due to Renya remembering only after being told.

However, Renya readily said the following,

"Even if I remember it, there is no benefit." (Renya)

"No matter whether you are nobles or not, we are already comrades of the same party", once Renya said that, Rona's expression changed from a dissatisfied one to a delighted one and then to a quite complicated one.

"Those are pleasant words, but... please remember it properly after all, okay?" (Rona)

"I will do my best." (Renya)

The amount of memories, his brain remembers, is fixed. It's not an inexhaustible quantity.

Since such a condition has been placed on the brain of people in order to forget trivial knowledge, he can't give a definite promise. Once Renya told her that, Rona smiled bitterly.

Given that his two fellow comrades turned him down at this point, Frau, who heard the story, requested to go with him at the time Renya wondered whether he should finally proceed towards the school. Everyone was surprised.

They thought that there's no way for Frau, who is a fairy possessing a house, to go out, however according to Frau "It's possible to go out to the degree of walking alongside the house's owner", they were informed.

If that's the case, it will also be possible to show the townscape to Frau, who has been continuing to always protect the deserted house until now. Renya agreed with an immediate reply to Frau accompanying him and that's how they have reached the current state.

Frau, who didn't leave the grounds of that house from the day she came into existence until this day, showed an appearance of great delight looking at the townscape for the first time.

Renya and Az, who watched that, naturally smiled, but, leaving aside the people concerned, due to the scene of a little girl in maid outfit with an age of obviously around 10 years being surrounded and lead around by two men being a lot older, they get surrounded from a distance. While only watching them with a tendency of slowly getting attracted without coming close, some people apparently went to report to the office of the city's guard.

The reason for Renya's group not getting taken into custody by the guards was because Rona, who somehow expected that to happen, secretly made the necessary preparations in advance. However, that was something that Az and Renya got to know in a distant future.

Although Renya resented the people's quite deplorable way of judging by appearance, he felt that he would have reported it as well, if he had seen the same scene himself. But, that was a secret he can't tell anyone.

"It's fine for me to lead you around the school, but since there isn't much time this time, we will head directly to the arena." (Az)

It's just the time when the class, Az is in charge of, will start its combat ability training.

The arena, mentioned by Az, has been built really simple with a structure similar to a dome and its interior consisting of nothing but the waiting rooms, a storage room and the arena, which is the main part.

The arena has a circular shape with a diameter of around 25 meters. It is surrounded by eight pillars. Small character-like things have been carved in a tight formation into those pillars. All the pillars have the peculiarity of having magic gems embedded in them in a way that they can be exchanged.

Those eight pillars deploy a barrier over the fighting grounds. That barrier has a function of reducing the effect of damage, in case it is one to the degree of killing, so that one won't pass away from it, no matter what kind of combat is done, and afterwards it will eject the injured person outside the barrier.

Renya, who was lead to the arena before the lesson began, carefully has examined those pillars on the way.

"If you got something this convenient, there won't be any deaths, if you use it for wars or such, right?" (Renya)

"It's not such a convenient item. In the first place, what do you think how many years it took to create one of those?" (Az)

Az, who knocked on the pillar, Renya was looking at, with his fist, stemmed his other hand against his waist and took a single breath through his nose.

"Only one of those took 10 years to be finished and it has cost 5 platinum coins." (Az)

"Just one?" (Renya)

"Yea, and there are eight pillars to erect the barrier. In other words, this is a barrier that has consumed 40 platinum coins just to create it." (Az)

On top of suffering such costs for just making it, the barrier's size is almost close to its limit by covering the arena, Az says.

In brief, it's a barrier created for the sake of training and exhibitions. It apparently has no practical use in real combat.

There isn't such beneficial story in this world, Renya is thinking while touching the pillar. Once the area around the entrance of the area became noisy, about 20 armed boys and girls entered.

Although called armed, they possess swords with blades made for crushing and simple chest protectors and coverings for the back of their hands and wrists, which probably have been made out of steel.

Once the entrance of the boys and girls finished, the one entering last was a single woman, who appears to be slightly older than Renya.

Atop the linen jouge, this person is carrying the same armament as the students.

Having her light brown hair in a drastic shortcut, the colour of her slightly largish pupils is reddish brown.

She seemed to be that much of an attractive woman, if she were to laugh energetically, but currently her face is gloomy and clouded. There isn't the slightest speck of cheerfulness in it either.



Renya understood the reason for that right away.

The woman raises her voice in front of Renya's group, who was slightly apart in order to not disturb the lesson.

"We will start the lesson! Everyone, please line up in 4 rows for starters!"

It was quite the loud voice, but there's no one, who reacts to the voice of the woman.

Each of them are irresponsibly prowling around the arena's field while chatting. Occasionally they exchanged blows with the training weapons. Watching that, they once again come together to just talk with each other without even looking in the direction of the woman.

"Everyone! We are still in class! Please follow the instructions of the teacher!"

"Teacher? How ridiculous. An incompetent teacher, who was defeated by a student, has nothing to say."

The one standing in front of the woman, who tries to somehow create an atmosphere of doing the class by raising her voice without getting discouraged, is a male student, who had quite the firm body build even looking from Renya's point of view.

"That female teacher is Liaris (T/N: >> Riarisu <<). The male student standing in front of her is Olan Schmeizer (T/N: >> Oran = Shumaiza <<). He is one of the students, who defeated Liaris-sensei. He is the eldest son of General Schmeizer of the army of the Principality of Triden." (Az)

"One of those, who defeated...? Are there several of them, if you use this way of phrasing it?" (Renya)

"Ah, over there..." (Az)

Az points at another part of the arena.

The female students are hanging out over there. In their middle there is a girl with blonde ringlets.

"That ringlets is Natalia Fatal (T/N: >> Nataria=Fataru <<). She is the eldest daughter of Marquis Fatal. Those two are the students, who defeated Liaris-sensei." (Az)

"I see? By the way, how old are they?" (Renya)

"Both of them are 15." (Az)

"That's a period of being cheeky." (Renya)

On top of being nobles, who are snobby, they are at an age, where they try to clash with adults one way or the other.

Moreover, as it's a fact they managed to win against a teacher as opponent, they likely ended up creating a situation of no restraints being effective, Renya conjectures.

Even while Renya's group has this talk, Liaris tries to gather the class of students somehow, however being surrounded by Olan and his followers, who are standing in the way, she finally isn't able to raise her voice anymore.

"Say, that female teacher Liaris, up until what rank did she proceed in the adventurer's guild?" (Renya)

"If I remember correctly... I heard that she went up to rank D before becoming a teacher." (Az)

"I see. Well then, shall I start the job? Frau, wait next to Az, got it?" (Renya)

"It's barely within the range. Thus I'd like you to finish quickly." (Frau)

Frau, who is moving by possessing the house's owner, apparently can't be too far apart from Renya outside the house's grounds.

Once Renya gives a nod with a smile towards Frau's remark, he unsheathes the training sword, he borrowed from Az, with his right hand and brandishes it with all his strength.

"Oy. The big one over there -" (Renya)

Renya calls out to Olan's group, which is surrounding Liaris, with a not too loud voice.

Even so, they heard it more or less? Olan shifted his sight towards Renya, but without confirming that, Renya threw the sword, held aloft, with all his power aiming at Olan's group.

"That's dangerous~"

"Haa?"

The students, who noticed Renya's action, had leeway to avoid it.

However, unluckily, a single student, who didn't realize Renya's deed, receives a crushing blow to his temporal region by the training sword, which came flying, as he continues to meddle with Liaris just as before. He collapses soundlessly.

Due to the sudden trespassing, no one is able to speak up.

Within that silence, Renya, who walked up to Liaris' spot without caring at all, picks up his sword, not paying any attention to the fallen student, and lightly greets Liaris, who still isn't able to grasp the situation.

"I'm Renya Kunugi, an F rank in the adventurer's guild. I've heard the story from Az that D-rank-senpai is troubled. I visited to see whether it's possible to help out a bit." (Renya)

"Eh? Az-kun?" (Liaris)

Due to her unexpectedly calling him Az-kun, Renya turns around his sight trying to see what kind of face As is making, but Az faced away with an incredible momentum.

Realizing the redness of his ears, which is at a level that you can even see it from a distance, Renya's face breaks into a smile. Frau, who was on standby next to Az, has for some reason a awfully great smile while doing a thumbs up.

"Umm, how did you get to know Az-kun?" (Liaris)

"I have received a favour at work from him. I accompanied him at the time he went to the job, which caused him to work at this school." (Renya)

Even while answering Liaris' question, Renya doesn't avert his sight from Az' face.

Although he deliberately looks at him repeatedly, Az absolutely won't match his sight with Renya's.

Guess I will interrogate him tightly afterwards, eh? was what Renya decided for the time

being. Then he released Az from the fetters of his look.

"Oy, bastard." (Olan)

Awaiting that, Renya showed a smile of a different nature to the one he directed at Az due to the voice, that can only be depicted as arrogant.

That's not the smiling face of a light chat with a friend. It's the smile of a hunter, who realized that his prey was caught in the trap.

"What do you want, big one?" (Renya)

Once Renya turns around his body their way while shouldering the training sword, Olan, whose expression was filled with anger as he lead his followers, is glaring at Renya.

Seeing his state, Renya's smile became even deeper.

If Olan had the same level of danger perception ability as Liaris, there's no doubt that he would have immediately left the scene.

In fact, Liaris, who sensed some turbulent presence, at once vacated the location while being beckoned by Az.

Once Liaris leaves the training field being ushered in by Az and Frau, they took refuge in a place similar to an audience seating, which is located right outside the barrier.

It's Renya, Olan and his followers who remained on the training field.

And, there's the students, who are watching them from a distance.

"You are a rude guy. It seems you don't know about etiquette towards a high-class person." (Olan)

The followers raise a laughter in order to follow up on Olan's words.

However, their laughter immediately vanished as it was painted out by an even louder laughter.

Of course, the owner of the laughter is Renya.

"High-class? Don't jest! At least that isn't a word to be used for a brat, who just lost his head over a chance victory." (Renya)

"You son of a bitch..." (Olan)

The eyes of Olan's group start to be filled with a dangerous light.

That's also the same for Natalia and the female students in her surroundings, who were aggravated by hearing Renya's statement.

"Show me proof if that's not the case. Am I not a far lower rank than the D-ranked adventurer you guys defeated?" (Renya)

A sound of Az spouting out could be heard in the distance, but Renya is proud of not having told a lie.

And, in the state of shouldering the sword, Renya provocatively beckoned the students as he held up the palm of his left hand.

CHAPTER 43

IT SEEMS TO BE THE START OF EDUCATION

Author Notes:

Why is that?

Although it's my impression before I wrote this chapter, I had nothing but a wish for extermination...

The figure of the student, who fainted and collapsed on the ground having a sword thrown at him in the first attack, has vanished.

He was apparently ejected outside by the barrier's safeguard.

The meaning, this points to, is that the student was given damage at the level of an instant death by Renya's attack.

Regardless of how dull the blade of the sword is, it can only be called a natural result, if one is hit into the temporal region with a lump of iron, thrown with all strength, without having prepared for it in any way.

From the view of the person, who threw it, he handled it with an attitude of "Ah, was he somehow killed in one go?", but it has changed the mood of the students in the surroundings into something dangerous.

Since it's as if he suddenly appeared and suddenly killed one of them, it's something inevitable if you say it can't be helped, however Renya doesn't appear to be worried about that at all.

"Show me proof, eh? Those aren't agreeable words to be said by a lowly adventurer, and moreover one of lower rank." (Olan)

Unsheathing his sword, Olan, who has quite the stature for being 15 years old, confronts Renya. With his solidly built body he really has the scent of a warrior, putting emphasis on power, hanging in the air.

Even as he opposes Renya, who has a supposed setting of being 18 years for the time

being, he isn't inferior at all.

"Even if you retract your statement and apologize, I won't accept it either, adventurer." (Olan)

Although Olan is saying something, his words aren't entering Renya's ears.

It's likely some pointless prattling anyway, Renya continued to observe his opponent.

After secretly looking at his own arms as Olan's arms have quite the thickness to them, he smiles wryly comprehending that he is losing out if it's only about the amount of muscles.

Moreover, once he shifts his sight in Liaris' direction for a glance, Liaris herself has a slender and supple figure that you can't call frail either. *If we are talking about types, she's likely the light warrior type, putting emphasis on speed.*

With only those information Renya understands the reason for Liaris losing to Olan.

"Matching your way of fighting to your opponent, I wonder what meaning that would have, even if you were able to win?" (Renya)

"What was that?" (Olan)

"Ah, I was speaking to myself. Even if you heard it, don't worry about it." (Renya)

Flapping his hand looking as if it is troublesome, Renya looks towards the other problem child.

Did that problem child hear Renya's voice? As expected she came walking their way up until next to Olan, while taking her followers along, and said, while stemming her hands into her hips,

"It's inexcusable to call it a chance victory. I also won't overlook this insult, even if you beg by prostrating yourself on the ground, but what are you going to do?" (Natalia)

The one spitting out those lines while looking down on him from a very elevated place is the blonde ringlet, Natalia.

Throwing out her chest lightly, she is looking at Renya with a gaze full of contempt,

however Renya's impression is that her impact falls short even compared to a cat's intimidation.

On the occasion, her pushed-out chest is extremely small to the degree of it being saddening.

Although Liaris has a smallness typical for her body built too, you at least know that's it's properly there.

Renya smiled about her having suffered an overwhelming defeat in regards to volume, but Natalia has a puzzled face not understanding the meaning of his smile.

Even so, Renya tilts his head to the side.

Different from Olan, who stresses on power, Natalia should be the same speed type as Liaris.

Saying that she was able to win with that, this person pretty much must have a substantive skill to rival Liaris or something that exceeds that, I guess?

The answer of that question was provided by Frau, who is at a separate place.

[Master, can you hear me?] (Frau)

"Yeah?" (Renya)

Renya reflexively leaked a voice, but he heard Frau's voice in his head rather than close to his ear.

It will be alright, even if you don't use your voice. This is telepathic communication. Frau is in a state of possessing master, thus it's possible to converse by minds. (Frau)

It's fine for you to praise me more. Going by what Az-san says, the blonde ringlets-san apparently fought a series of battles with Liaris-san after macho-san. Az-san has asked me to tell you this since master is probably wondering about this. (Frau)

Is that so? I see, thanks. (Renya)

[It's no problem.] (Frau)

Renya thinks that the barrier for the sake of security has a flaw.

It's something that will reduce the damage so that one won't die from it, in case one received a fatal wound.

Turning that around, you can likewise say that the damage will remain afterwards, if it isn't a fatal wound.

Usually they are probably performing treatment with healing magic after the combat training, but if it was a series of battles, it would mean that Liaris fought with Natalia in the state of being just after the battle with Olan.

In other words, this means she dragged the damage, she received in the fight with Olan, into her battle with Natalia.

Although it's damage given by muscle-brained warrior, who doesn't know how to hold back, it's not hard to anticipate that the damage likely killed Liaris' agility.

"Ah I see, In the end she's only a considerable idiot, who began a handicapped fight, and a fool, who went easy on her opponent." (Renya)

Hitting his hand on his forehead wondering whether he won't be seen as an idiot for being cautious, even if it was just a bit, Renya sighs while shaking his head.

Did they regard his behaviour as him making fun of them? Drawing her sword from her waist as well, Natalia glared at Renya while shouting,

"Scum! If you have no inclination to change your attitude, I shall teach you the social standing of this Natalia Fatal!" (Natalia)

"By all means, I wish for you to teach me." (Renya)

Still shouldering the sword, Renya gave an immediate reply without even looking worked up.

"I already have enough of your introductions and boasting. Hurry up and attack. If we go by your guys' theory, you are distinguished albeit not grasping a bit about the means of winning, right?" (Renya)

While looking as if he has seen something tedious, Renya once again beckoned Olan and Natalia, who are gnawing their teeth with a grinding sound.

"I won't ask you something shabby as going one on one. Come at me all at once together with your followers." (Renya)

"You will regret your big talk." (Olan)

"I shall send you off to the medical treatment facility!" (Natalia)

As expected of a different world.

It's not sending off to the hospital, but it's sending off to medical treatment facility since you can receive treatment with magic, Renya, who was rushed by Olan, Natalia and their followers aiming at him while brandishing each of their weapons, admired a weird aspect.

Watching more than half of the class beginning to attack all at once, Liaris raised her voice to restrain them, but as Az and Frau immediately have detained her body, they are urging her to wait and watch the situation.

The one who delivered the first attack at Renya, who doesn't move from the spot, is the speed type Natalia after all.

Renya, who dodged the thrust, she released aiming at his chest while charging, by simply twisting the right half of his body, pushes away Natalia's shoulder with his left hand as she is passing him by and thrust her away into his back.

Next he evades the slash of Olan, which was swung downwards from a stance of holding the sword above his head, with the left side. Lightly hitting him around the area of the waist with the sword, he had shouldered, he likewise sends him into his back.

Only at this point Renya takes a step forward.

Going ahead by slipping through the attacks, unleashed by the followers, without even exchanging blows with his sword, Renya quickly made his way through the attacks, reaching a two-digit number, in the blink of an eye and appeared at the place, where several male and female students are casting spells, causing them to stare at him in surprise.

"It's a common tactic to kill the magicians first." (Renya)

The mowing-down blow seizes the waist of a female student and blows her away.

Having the returning blade driven onto the top of his shoulders, a male student collapsed as if being slapped onto the ground.

After rolling around on the floor to her heart's contents like a barrel, the female student, who was blown away, vanished at the same time her rotations ceased.

The knocked-down male student tries to get up while seizing his shoulder, but his face, which sees the shoe sole approaching in front of his eyes, stiffens.

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"Ah... • • Stop..."
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The male student attempted to say something, however Renya steps on him without a single care.

Although various pleasant sensations are transmitted from the sole of his foot, he disregards it and continues to tread on the student.

He steps on the arms, which tried to somehow protect the body.

Stepping on the back which tried to escape, he steps on him even more after kicking the back of his head.

He steps on him thoroughly.

Finally, after confirming that the figure of male student, who ceased moving, disappeared, Renya turned around relaxedly.

Ahead of his line of view there are Olan and Natalia, who are looking at Renya dumbfoundedly, and the followers, who are unable to move, due to the tragedy that unfolded suddenly in front of their eyes.

Frau. Leave dealing with Liaris-sensei to Az. Can you please block the way out of the arena? (Renya)

『Leave it to me ♪』 (Frau)

For some reason she returned cheerful thoughts.

While thinking *isn't it too early for her to get corrupted?*, he casually brushes the sword, which was swung downward alongside a shout somehow similar to a scream, away.

It's a female student, who came attacking.

Driving his knee into the pit of her stomach as he body is swaying due to having the sword brushed off, he drops his elbow into the back of her head in pursuit of the place, where her body bent while she was throwing up gastric juices. After stepping once more at the spot, where she fell, he plunges the tip of his shoe into her flank with a kick.

The vomited gastric juices got blended with something red, but the girl's body hasn't vanished.

Renya, who laughs as it apparently wasn't lethal enough damage, once again strikes down his heel into the back of her head delivering an accurate blow and the girl disappears.

"Az-kun!? Isn't that person brimming with the intention to kill from the outset!?" (Liaris)

"No, Liaris-sensei. It's because he knows that they won't die." (Az)

He heard something resembling a shriek and a voice soothing that, but he pretends to not hear it and ignores it.

With three people getting erased in a flash, the students have ended up backing away.

Seeing that, Renya snorted at them indifferently.

If it's only this much, it has been more effective to fight with the goblins, who came raiding the pioneer's village.

Grabbing the nape of the neck of a male student, who is only looking at him with frightened eyes, Renya pulls him towards himself.

Before he can say anything, he gives him several head-butts to the middle forehead. Given that the student's knees gave away once Renya released his hands, once he

kicked him into the nether region, the student writhed in pain while foam was coming out off his mouth.

Isn't it better for this one to not vanish? Neglecting the student, Renya turns a smile towards Olan and Natalia, who haven't tried to move yet.

"Oy, the two monkey bosses over there! Won't your friends disappear, if you are blankly standing around at such place?" (Renya)

Renya tried to provoke the two, who won't come slashing at him, however as Natalia's face turned pale, her hand, holding the sword, is trembling and she is in no condition to resist at all.

Olan set up the sword with both arms as he clicked his tongue once and came assaulting Renya with the sword while raising his fighting spirit with a yell.

Renya met the blow, which was a downward swing once again as if that was somehow the only thing Olan learned, with a slash, similar to scooping up from below, while gripping the longsword with only his right hand.

The outcome of the sword clash is obvious as to which side will win with it being one-handed against two-handed and scooping up against swinging downward. The referee's fan rises for Renya.

Olan, who ended up letting go of the sword from his hands, succumbing to the impact, stared at Renya with a grim look. Renya hit Olan's forehead with the pommel of the sword he was currently raising overhead.

"Guaah!?" (Olan)

Renya pierces a frontal kick into the abdomen of Olan, who is bent backwards and holding his forehead due to the pain.

The angry voice of Renya was hurled at Olan, who fell on his backside unable to endure.

"For a swordsman to drop their sword in the middle of a fight; are you fucking around with me!? Pick it up! Just like a dog!" (Renya)

Being shouted at, Olan staggeringly stood up and is just like that sent flying by Renya's

merciless kick.

"Do dogs walk on two feet!? Move on all fours!" (Renya)

Relentlessly kicking Olan, who still tried to get up, he looks over his shoulder and glares at the male student, who approached from behind, while seeing off Olan, who finally headed off to pick up the tossed-away sword saying "Hii hii" on all fours.

The manner of the male student, who ceased moving with only that look, accelerated Renya's rage once again.

"It's at a level that you were noticed." (Renya)

He swings the sword in the act of turning around with a blow, having simply packed plenty of strength into it without any technique.

"Don't stop, idiot!" (Renya)

Mowing down his arm and torso all together, the body of that male student was knocked down without him being even able to scream.

The next second, the male student rolls around screaming while making sure to hold his broken arm with the other arm.

If the torso was directly mowed down, it might have been judged as deadly damage, but because the arm acted as cushion in-between, it seems to have finished with only completely breaking the arm.

Slowly returning the hand with the swung sword, Renya surveys his surroundings with a glance.

As if being crushed by his gaze, the students lower their eyes to the ground.

"I-It's still not over!" (Natalia)

The one raising her voice in that situation is Natalia.

Her hands are still trembling, like the followers around her, but she rebukes her surroundings with a loud voice while glaring at Renya.

"There's only one opponent! It's not like the chances for our side have already vanished!" (Natalia)

It's a fact that they are still outnumbering him.

Additionally, the matter of Natalia not having lost her fighting spirit somehow holds the broken minds of her followers together.

Furthermore, albeit having headed off to recover his weapon in a pathetic state, even Olan hasn't yet fallen into a state of being unable to fight.

"You still want to go at it, eh...? I see~ I see~" (Renya)

Looking at the students setting up their swords and beginning to move in order to surround him this time, Renya laughed very happily.

"Well, it's a battlefield, where you can feel at ease due to not dying. It's likely a good thing if you try to accumulate experience, anyhow... they probably haven't been able to experience something like being on the receiving end yet." (Renya)

While thinking *putting aside physical casualties, it will be fine, if no casualties on the emotional side appear*, Renya took a step forward looking for his next prey.

CHAPTER 44

IT SEEMS TO BE THE END OF EDUCATION

While closing the distance by walking slowly, Renya was truly puzzled over one matter.

The truth is that the students are persistently continuing to resist longer than he expected.

He operated under the estimation that their hearts would break and that they would stop opposing him once he instantly killed 2-3 students, as planned at first, but even when he displayed a degree of violence making them draw back, the students endured it, albeit just barely.

Given that I don't want to produce a pile of corpses, I have also pretty much been partially holding back, however there's no doubt that a major part of the reason, for them to preserve their morale, can be likely accounted to the leader-like existences, Olan and Natalia, being still in good health, Renya realized that he made a mistake in his targeting.

I should have crushed either of them at the beginning, he slightly regrets.

The remaining number of students is eight boys and girls in total.

Breaking it down, there are three boys and five girls, but of these eight, the three boys and one girl have Renya surrounded.

Each of the remaining girls started to chant some kind of spell.

"Cover him from all four directions! There's no need to take him down! All you have to do is to lock down his movements!"

The rear guard prepares the magic while the vanguard stalls for time.

Scrapping off the stamina of the target with magic, that is hard to evade, they will bring me down with the vanguard once my movements become dull.

It's an orthodox group combat strategy.

Even if there was quite a difference in skill, it would take considerable time to defeat swordsmen, who were completely devoted to protection.

If they mix in feints while cooperating with each other from the four cardinal directions, the degree of difficulty will raise even more.

"It was you, who approved of group combat. We will use that without reservations." (Olan)

Olan says while smiling as he saw Renya being at a loss how to continue making him unable to make a move, however Renya's thoughts were actually somewhere else.

If I plan to go for it, it's possible to beat Olan in front of me and silence the schoolgirls in the back.

However, what would one say about mercilessly slaughtering the students, who have somehow thought up a strategy and are trying to do something about the enemy in front of them, he ended up pondering.

If he's in a battle, such way of thinking won't occur to begin with.

It's the common sense of combat to cut down and crush your enemies when it's possible to do so.

However, as for Renya, he couldn't deny that he's feeling somewhat bored either.

They probably got cocky from defeating a teacher, but actually they have no suitable ability to keep up the bluff either.

It was a factor that I haven't taken the possibility of Olan's group being proper soldiers into account, but with the other side being students, they are unworthy opponents even if I acknowledge to some extent, going by Renya's opinion. Notwithstanding that, Renya has been tossed into a situation, he can't weather through.

"Vanguards, step aside! Fire the spells!" (Natalia)

Natalia's commands resound.

At the same time as those, serving as vanguards, retreat from in front of Renya, three <Small Fire Ball> spells were released.

Those will probably cause quite the injury, if they hit, Renya takes a step towards one among those approaching and strikes it with the sword.

At the moment the sword clashed with the fire ball, flames spread in front of Renya.

Due to the different reaction from the time when he cut it with his own katana, Renya's response is delayed, albeit it was only slightly.

Although he avoided a direct hit from the the following fire balls, which came flying, the fire ball, which skimmed Renya, has burnt his left shoulder lightly.

Having his reaction slowed down at the time he feels the pain, Olan closes in on Renya using that gap.

The blow, which had brute strength packed into it alongside the velocity of stepping in, was mowed down aiming at Renya's left torso.

At once Renya switches to a backhand grip with his left from grasping the sword with his right hand and holds the wide middle part of the blade against his own torso.

It was in time as defence against the blow exercised at that spot, however with the impact being transmitted to his body as is, Renya grimaces a bit.

Originally the power, which was set free, has been enough to make one fly into the impact's direction, but Renya pushes back Olan's sword by stepping forward with his body.

Even if it's somewhat forcefully, not changing the flow will gradually make the situation worse and worse and I will be whittled down by the number of attacks, Renya judged, however this resulted in an unexpected outcome.

"Follow up on the magic! Shoot without minding Olan!" (Natalia)

"Oy! You bitch!?" (Olan)

If they attack Renya, who's close to Olan, with magic, Olan might get hit.

That's why they are probably hesitating to use magic, Renya thought, but Natalia's order to shoot it, including Olan in the attack, was something heartless.

As for the decision, I can't say it's wrong.

If they hit Renya, even if Olan takes the brunt as well, Renya's fighting strength will decrease even further.

On top of there still being three vanguards alive, the rearguard is completely unhurt. Thus it should trigger a remarkable chance of success.

Though, that's only if the shooting side and the shot side promptly follow according to the order.

Unintentionally the four vanguards ended up looking in Natalia's direction.

That's because they realized the possibility of them being chosen alongside Olan as targets of the spells together with Renya, if necessary.

The three rearguards ended up hesitating.

They don't know the result from attacking Olan, who is the legitimate child of General Schmeizer's family, or of the act of attacking their allies, but there's no doubt that they simply ended up being late with the timing of releasing the prepared spells either way.

And, Natalia was surprised by the kind of looks, similar to being condemned by all her friends, concentrating onto her.

Finally Renya noticed it.

In the current situation the gazes of everyone had stopped being cautious towards him.

The act of taking one's eyes off the opponent during combat, even if only for a moment, is directly connected to instant death, but currently that's inevitable, even if you try to blame them.

Releasing a single, small sigh, Renya presses his right hand against Olan's body and pushes it in order to thrust him away.

Renya, who got away by the recoil from Olan, whose stance fell part, rushes towards one of the boys while the eyes of everyone returns to follow Renya at last. He grabs the studnent's belt with his right hand and lifts him up with all his strength.

Renya rotated him around two times by using the essentials of hammer throwing and flung him at the girls of the rear guard making full use of the centrifugal force.

The one flying screams and the ones, he is aimed at, scream as well.

Renya is utterly amazed by the vanguards, who have faithfully turned their sights in that direction once again for some reason.

Maybe they don't understand the meaning of being in battle, I wonder?

If this were students, who had properly taken their lessons, one would conclude that the method of teaching is bad and it would be a point to lecture the teacher about, however Liaris, who was made fun of by the students, wasn't in a situation to hold a proper lesson.

Seizing another male student, Renya lips warp as he says "A narrow escape from death" while throwing the boy at the rear guard in the same manner.

"A-Az-kun!? Just now some terrible chill travelled down my back!?" (Liaris)

"Please calm down, Liaris-sensei. Surely that's just some hallucination." (Az)

They should have accepted her teaching, even if only for the danger perception skill, Renya smiled even more as he heard the exchange audible in the bleachers.

The remaining vanguards are only Olan and a single girl.

The girls in the rear guard, having been flattened by the two boys, who came flying, are in the middle of trying to get out from below the boys' bodies. They are in a situation of being completely unable to support with magic.

"Has noble-sama become tired gradually? I admire you for barking "Oh, how dare you" with you being unable to defeat a single F-rank adventurer." (Renya)

"B-Bastard. You won't simply be sorry for doing such thing..." (Olan)

"Did you decide to wield your social position? You became too retarded to even serve as opponent." (Renya)

"Guuh, this...!" (Olan)

"To begin with, can you look down on the D-rank Liaris-sensei, if you aren't even able to defeat the F-ranked me? So you lot understand the reason for her being rank D and me being rank F? In spite not even grasping such fact, it clung to your mind to only care about having defeated her once? One cannot help but think that it's a joke." (Renya)

"Don't talk rubbish!" (Olan)

Did he succumb into fury? Olan assaulted with the sword while raising a roar, but in Renya's eyes each of his attacks was far too monotone.

The blows, which are unleashed by one blessed with power and physique, might become a threat, if I try to block them, but without the intention to go along with that, there's no great difference to a gigantic electric fan revolving around, if you have the skill to simple dodge the attacks.

As Renya had even lost the motivation to expressly wait for a downward-swing, he severely hit Olan's wrist with a blow from his sword while stepping in,

Olan once again drops the sword due to the pain.

With even the mood of warning him already gone, Renya lightly kicks Olan's nether region.

Renya deliberately raised his sword overhead slowly, as if showing off, at the place Olan slouched down and groaned.

"W-Wait! Please wait!" (Olan)

"My ears don't properly listen to one pleading for their life." (Renya)

The downwards blow crushes Olan's shoulder, but Renya has absolutely no intention to finish it with that blow.

Without any moderation and mercy Renya unleashes a barrage of continuous sword strikes at the place, where Olan squatted down while holding his shoulder.

As long as the barrier doesn't judge it as lethal level of damage, the victim won't be ejected outside the barrier.

And, no matter how dull the blade might be, if it's used for showering the target with blows at full power, the skin will tear and blood will scatter about.

Basking in the spurts of blood, Renya doesn't stop doing it while unconsciously raising a giggling laughter.

The faces of the students being at that place became ghastly pale due to that abnormal spectacle. Not a single of them was able to move.

After a while only the sound of steel hitting flesh and bones reverberates in the arena. Eventually the sound ceases once Olan's figure disappeared at last.

The schoolgirl, who remained by herself as vanguard, ends up sitting down on the floor, as if her knees gave away, with Renya, who was dyed red and had his longsword lowered loosely, only looking her way with a face soaked in blood.

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"Hel... p..."
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Separating her hand from the sword, the girl appeals while putting both hands together in front of her chest as if praying.

Without answering, Renya slowly approached her.

"Please... I will do anything... Since I'm apologizing, please..."

There's no reply from Renya.

Renya halts once he walked up in front of the girl and leisurely brandishes his sword all the same.

"Please... don't want... such... such a..."

The blood-red-coloured blade comes to a stop all of a sudden.

Renya looked down on the girl and said in a voice lacking any emotion,

"Die." (Renya)

"Noooooooooooo!"

The blade is brought down as if to sever the girl's screaming.

As it passed by the girl, who had sunk down to the floor, it crashed into the ground and caused a high-pitched sound.

The girl looks at the blade, which hit the ground in front of her, as if looking at something unbelievable. As soon as she lifted her sight towards Renya's face, her eyes rolled back and she collapsed backwards.

Renya averts his eyes from the stain gradually spreading between her legs and turns around to the girls of the rearguard, who at this point in time finally slipped out from below the male student's body.

"Four people left, huh? I wonder, how should I punish you?" (Renya)

"Hii..."

Unable to even meet Renya's gaze, Natalia and the three female students turn around and start running towards the exit of the arena.

Since Renya's conduct at least follows by him knowing that they won't die as long as they are within the barrier, they jumped onto the idea that they will be saved if they simply escape outside, but naturally there's no way that the exit's door is open.

It was something unbeknownst to the people being inside, however Frau set up a barricade outside with all her might so that the door won't open.

"Open up! Open this door! Let us out of here!"

"No! I don't want to such stare on me!"

"Sensei~! Sensei! Please save us, sensei!"

Dragging the swords point along the ground on purpose, Renya walks leisurely while causing a scratching sound.

The sound and his action agitates the dread of the students even more and they continue to strike the door with their hands at full power.

"I don't believe it's something this scary though?" (Renya)

Renya's voice is somehow strangely happy and annoyed.

"Even if you don't worry, you won't die in this barrier, right? It might be more agonizing than dying and as painful as death, but..." (Renya)

Renya brandishes the sword in a big way for flaunting while smiling brightly.

"Oh well, since you won't die, it doesn't matter, I guess?" (Renya)

"Please wait!" (Liaris)

The one stopping Renya's behaviour is Liaris' voice from the stands.

"It's already... enough. Please stop doing any more. Please..." (Liaris)

"You aren't my client though..." (Renya)

Renya looks at Az, who is standing besides Liaris, and tilts his head to the side.

"What shall I do?" (Renya)

"It's enough. Those guys probably have learned their lesson as well." (Az)

"Is that so? Because my employer has said so, I will end it with this." (Renya)

In front of the female students, including Natalia, whose complexion has gone way past blue and became white, Reyna says with a serious look after casually tossing away the used longsword,



"The next time you pick a fight with me, I will make you suffer so that you realize that today was just child's play." (Renya)

The students tried to cling to the exit's door, but they vehemently nod, at a level close to dislocating their necks, at Renya's words.

Was it too much of a threat? Renya wondered, however in front of his eyes the students, hanging onto the door, were blown off together with the door alongside a thunderous explosion.

In addition to the students, some wreckage from above the dome and the remains of the door, are sent flying depicting a parabola. While hearing the sound of those crushing onto the ground from behind, ahead of Renya's look, blankly staring at the exit which ended up having lost its door, Frau is raising both hands with a smile all over her face for some reason.

"Master! Good work!" (Frau)

"Frau... was that you just now?" (Renya)

"Since it was troublesome to remove the barricade, I tried to blow it all away including the barricade! That did the job quickly!" (Frau)

"Eh, ah, yea? Well, I guess so?" (Renya)

Looking back, he can't see the figures of Natalia's group, which was buried below the remains of the barricade and door.

They shouldn't have died, as they probably were in range of the barrier's effect, but sure enough I wonder, which was less objectionable, the current state or being beat up by me? Renya was troubled within his mind.

However, given that it has turned out this way, it can't be helped now.

"Let's go home, Frau?" (Renya)

"Yes, master! You must also change your dirty clothes." (Frau)

"Oy, Renya. What will you do about the broken door?" (Az)

"Make it the doctor's fee for those students. You will charge them greatly anyway, right? I leave the clean up to you." (Renya)

"Az-kun, we have to talk a bit about this time's affair..." (Liaris)

The face of Az, whose robe was seized by Liaris, had a slight cramp.

Renya didn't know whether Liaris' talk would be a talk of gratitude or a scolding for overdoing it, however this was nothing Renya should participate in.

"Do your best, Az~" (Renya)

"Renya... be prepared as I have to talk with you afterwards." (Az)

"I will listen, if I feel like it. You are able to properly pay the request's fee? If not, I will rampage again." (Renya)

"Master~, let's go!" (Frau)

The interest of Renya, who saw off Az getting dragged off by Liaris and whose sleeve was pulled by Frau, changed its focus on whether he has to return to the house by walking in this state of being sullied with blood.

CHAPTER 45

IT SEEMS TO BE A RE-TRAINING OF MAGIC AND POST-SETTLEMENT ★

"Eh? Did you two already make a child?" (Khalil)

"Do I look like a woman, who gave birth?" (Shion)

Renya looks at Shion, who yells with a bright red face, while wondering why she might be this bashful about it.

Given that Frau is firmly clinging to his waist, it certainly doesn't look as anything but parents leading their child around either.

The place is once again Khalil's shop.

On the other side of the table Khalil is sitting in a pose of resting her back into the chair and stretching out her legs, just in the same way as the last when they saw her.

It was Shion, who proposed that he should once again take lessons in magic at Khalil's store.

Since he was told that he has hopelessly little mana, Renya has continued his training to increase the amount of mana, he possesses, whenever he had free time. Most recently it had moreover reached the point that he was actively supplying mana to Frau, who is a fairy.

Frau's staple food is the mana released by people normally, but how did it turn into a situation of her actively receiving mana from Renya then? If asked about that point, her answer was "the meal will become very happy ~no." That's because it's a way to efficiently use the mana rather than pointlessly dispersing it. Frau has only been eating what she's able to eat.

At the same time as this became a link to Renya's training, it also gave birth to an unexpected side effect.

Usually, the numerous magic tools, which move by using magic gems as fuel, can't work by using people's mana as power source.

However, Frau, who seems to be linked and connected to all of the devices within the house, was able to operate the magic tools within with the mana supplied by Renya, on top of changing it into her own mana.

As a matter of fact, after buying the house, in various places, which they examined together with Az, who's also an expert, they found quite many parts in the house, where mechanisms using magic gems were installed, like the fireplaces, lamps, the water supply from the ceiling fan installed in the ceiling, kitchen and toilet.

Did the merchant, who was the previous owner, obtain quite a profit or did he procure funds in another way? I don't know, but anyway, without the resolve to invest considerable expenses into just maintaining it, was the aspect he thought about, but since we don't use them much anyway, Renya has been making sure to have Frau absorb his mana to the point of him being on the verge of collapse.

Aren't fairies beings centred around filling their stomachs? With Frau only accepting what she's able to accept, we didn't attempt to make her eat more than she can.

Upon inquiry, Rona found that point more mysterious than expected.

"It looks like Frau compresses the received mana for saving ~nano." (Frau)

"There's an upper limit, right?" (Rona)

"Of course \sim nano. But, with master doing his best with all his power, he manages 20% of the whole \sim nano. Since there's the share used to maintain the house, Frau can still eat much more \sim no." (Frau)

Having somehow a hunch that Frau regarded her at the same time with the discerning eyes of a carnivore having found its prey, Rona's sole action was to run away in a hurry.

Putting that aside, even with Renya transferring his mana to Frau to degree of being close to running dry, he began to comprehend his immediate recovery thanks to the Super Regeneration skill. Because of that he has been transferring mana to Frau continuously at a rate that balances the transferring portion and the recovering portion.

With the method of directly touching being more efficient for the mana transfer, according to Frau's words, it reached the point that she was clinging to Renya whenever she found time to do so.

By the way, as her favourite spot was to ride on Renya's back, it has turned into a situation of Renya's figure with a Loli maid riding on top of his shoulders could be seen all over the city and the number of reports to the city's guards apparently increased as well, but this is yet another story.

"There are two monsters..." (Khalil)

Without taking notice of Shion, who is glaring at her with a bright red face, Khalil turns her sight towards Renya and took a single breath with a "Haa."

"Are you really the person from the other day? I can't see you as the same person though." (Khalil)

"Though I'm the very same person... what do you mean by that?" (Renya)

Renya tilts his head to the side.

Frau, who is clinging to his waist, tilted her head to the side alongside him.

In the first place, I don't understand whom she means by saying that there are two monsters.

Since there's only Renya, Frau, Shion and Khalil in this place, it can't point to anyone but Frau and Renya, if you exclude Shion.

"There's a huge difference in your mana's power to the time when I looked at you the other day. The one clinging to your waist is... a fairy? Even that fairy-ojou-chan has an absurd amount of mana, if compared to me." (Khalil)

"It's fine because Frau is a fairy. But you aren't allowed to call master a monster ~no." (Frau)

Khalil bitterly smiled at Frau, who's raising a low groan of "Uuh" while clinging to Renya's waist.

"Sorry, sorry. It's nothing more than an allegory. Don't glare at me this much since I

will apologize, if you took offence." (Khalil)

"I don't particularly mind, but... right, it would be helpful if you could stop it after all." (Renya)

Feeling that the force of Frau's hand's grabbing his clothes was getting gradually stronger, Renya said while gently brushing Frau's head.

While apologizing with a "Excuse me, excuse me", Khalil fixes her sitting posture on the chair and bends herself forward on the table.

"So, today's business is?" (Khalil)

"Because I think that I increased my mana somewhat, I want to get taught new magic." (Renya)

"I can't hear *somewhat* as anything but sarcasm, though? Sorry, but even if I gather 100 people, I don't believe they will even reach the feet of this fairy-ojou-chan, to say nothing about you." (Khalil)

"Even if you say that, it doesn't feel real." (Renya)

While it may be true that I gained in quantity of mana I possess, it doesn't particularly mean that the change, which happened, is easy to understand for me by being told that I'm filled with power, which somehow has no meaning, or that a halo is floating above my head.

Since I can only use the spells <Small Fire Ball> and <Light>, I felt like she should at least pass me something more convenient.

"I removed the utilization limit of the void attribute, but after all, I want to use spells of the wind attribute, I have good compatibility with." (Renya)

"Even though you talk about about the limit release as if it's something simple, won't it become a doom for my business, if you did such a thing, though I don't know how you did it?" (Khalil)

"It can't be helped since I was able to do it, right? Since I don't know the spell chants,

I can't use anything but Light." (Renya)

Due to Renya declaring that carelessly, Khalil fetches one scrap of paper and two books from the shelves while dripping complains along the lines of "this is the norm for Lost from somewhere" with sounds of snapping.

"Those are the key notes of the chants and on how to use the spells of the void and wind attributes and this is a talisman to release the limit of elementary wind spells. They cost 10 gold coins in total." (Khalil)

"I totally don't have enough money on hand for those." (Renya)

"If that's the case, let me pay for it." (Shion)

The cash, owned by Renya, didn't reach the amount of money requested by Khalil at all.

To begin with, he didn't expect anything else but learning several simple spells for around one gold coin, but before Renya can say anything, Shion piles up the gold coins on top of the table.

"Thank you for your continued patronage~" (Khalil)

"Oi, Shion." (Renya)

"It's fine. I will probably be able to recover it in no time. It's also similar to an advance payment." (Shion)

"You know, you are in quite the high spirits, Shion." (Khalil)

Due to Khalil's remark and her grinning broadly while collecting the gold coins on top of the table, Shion's cheeks became red, albeit only a bit.

While he watched that with a somewhat lukewarm gaze, Khalil said towards Renya,

"Are you such a good man? I wonder if it would be a good idea for me to take a little bite as well?" (Khalil)

"Don't know. Don't ask me about such thing." (Renya)

Once Renya replies that being astonished, Khalil, who laughed with a "Tee-hee", places back half of the gold coins, she had just collected, on top of the table.

"I will invest in you as well. Maybe something good might come out of it." (Khalil)

"I won't take any responsibility, even if I'm unable to return it." (Renya)

Although Renya said that as warning, Khalil's smile didn't vanish.

If there are people, who give a good assessment like Khalil, there will also be people, who will pass a bad assessment.

The incident, as if pointing that out, occurred in the evening of the very same day.

Having the dinner made by Renya, it's a period of time when each of them has been somewhat at leisure with a filled stomach.

The ones being in charge of making the meals are always Renya or Frau.

Although it didn't mean that Rona wasn't able to cook, she can't make anything but sketchy food that somehow lacks taste. As for Shion, she might make something you could barely call food. Having no choice with them possessing such degree of skill, Renya, who wants to always eat delicious food, volunteered to cook by himself, since that was the case.

Because Frau, apart from being expected of a domestic servant fairy, possessed the skills to flawlessly handle everything from housework, cleaning, washing to cooking, she occasionally alternates with Renya.

When those two were cleaning the used tableware in the kitchen, Frau suddenly looked up to the ceiling and grumbled something in a small voice.

"What happened, Frau?" (Renya)

Renya, who noticed Frau's behaviour, asks while putting away the tableware on the shelves after drying them.

"The grounds have been surrounded ~no." (Frau)

While rinsing the tableware with water without stopping her hands, Frau mentioned

such disturbing situation.

Renya stops his hands in surprise.

"Since there are many people around here, won't it be strange if they don't notice it either ~no? Those people are quite adept at erasing the presences ~nano." (Frau)

"Assassins, eh? Their numbers?" (Renya)

"15 people ~nano. 5 of them are women. Quite pitiful ~nano." (Frau)

Hearing their number, Renya who tried to grab his katana, which was leaning against the wall close-by, and leave the kitchen, stops his feet.

Feeling as if he had heard some word that usually won't be attached at the end of the sentence, Renya turned towards Frau.

Given that it is difficult for her to do her work as she is short, the look of Frau, who is washing the dishes while standing on top of a placed stool, is still directed up to the ceiling.

In front of Renya, who is wondering whether she might be able to see something there, Frau finally returned her sight from the ceiling to the washing of the plates in her hands.

"All of them are owning daggers with a completely dark appearance \sim no. Since their faces have been hidden by masks... probably, they are people, about whom no one will worry even if they disappear \sim nano." (Frau)

"I see?" (Renya)

"Master, please finish tidying up here \sim no. Frau is going somewhere else for a bit \sim no." (Frau)

"Oi, Frau!?" (Renya)

"It's alright, I will return right away ~no." (Frau)

Jumping off the stool with a *pyon*, Frau hands a just washed plate to Renya and leaves the kitchen with her feet making sounds of pitter-patter.

Renya, who came to his senses with the sound of the door closing with a bang, pursued her, but ended up stopping at the point of putting his hand on the door.

No matter how much he tried to open that door, it didn't bulge at all.

Because it's the door of the dining room, it doesn't have anything where you can use a key.

If that's the case, no one else but Frau made sure that I can't open the door.

He comprehended that it was something related to magic, but Renya didn't have the means to cancel it.

"Huh? What happened, Frau?"

Shion, who enjoyed her after-meal black tea while relaxing in the parlour, asked noticing Frau standing in the entrance.

"Shion-ane-sama. I will close the door for a bit \sim no. I want you to relax there since I will be done right away \sim no." (Frau)

"Yea?" (Shion)

"Best regards ~nano." (Frau)

Shion was puzzled as the door was closed with a click, but thinking *it's probably nothing major*, she brought the cup, filled with black tea, to her lips.

Locking up Shion in the parlour, Frau searches for Rona's whereabouts.

It seems that she's in the middle of taking a bath, Frau, who sensed that, leaves Rona alone with a "that side is fine as it is."

Renya, who is fond of bathing, heats the bath by using hot water almost every day.

If one intends to compare it to the common sense of this world, such a thing is done by extremely rich people, nobles or people at the level of being royalty, however Renya absolutely doesn't yield on taking a bath every day since "I'm able to make it happen with magic anyway."

Until then Shion and Rona didn't have a habit of taking a bath every day, but since they arrived at the conclusion "It will be our loss since it's getting heated up no matter what", they have changed their habits to taking a daily bath, just like Renya.

Since Rona-ane-sama is absolutely gorgeous and erotic after taking a bath, it won't do to not have her get a completely flushed skin by warming up slowly, confirming the temperature of the bath once, Frau opened the door of the entry hall after judging that there's no problem.

The slightly chilly evening air flows into the hall from the left-open door.

It's wrong for the house's inside to cool down, Frau closed the door right away, once she left the entry hall.

And then she snaps her fingers once.

With only that gesture all of the curtains of the house's windows closed without a sound.

With this no one will be able to grasp the state outside from within the house.

She felt like she heard the sound of the surprised Shion, who sat on the sofa, topple over due to the abrupt closing of the curtains, but since it's unimportant, she pays no attention to it and ignores it.

"Guest-sama's, can you hear me? I'm called Frau and I'm serving as maid in this house." (Frau)



Opposite to her calm tone, her voice holds no emotions.

Frau continues in a flat voice, that would likely make Renya's group open their eyes widely, if they heard it, as it is completely different from the usual her.

"As I'm the person taking care of the house's security, I can't really welcome visitors, who don't use the main gate. Please, I ask you kindly to leave the premises." (Frau)

Instead of a reply, the the evening light was cut by a silver light, which pierced Frau's chest.

Without raising her voice, Frau looks down at her own chest.

There she found a dagger wholly, down to its root, sticking into her chest.

"Is it alright to take this as your answer?" (Frau)

Without changing her expression, Frau takes the dagger, which was stabbed into her chest.

After she pulled it out, there are no traces that the blade was stuck in her chest left behind.

Frau stares at the extracted blade.

That blade, although only slightly, was coated with something slimy and black.

"Poison? You use something boorish." (Frau)

Her voice doesn't seem to be in disorder due to pain of being stabbed and having been poisoned.

"Almost all of you are people arranged by the parents of some of the school's students, master defeated, but all of you are people, who are despised in some way." (Frau)

Frau shakes her head with a "Good grief."

Frau, who can hear small voices and groans from within the shadows of the walls, thickets and grove of trees, observes all over the garden in front of her with a cold look.

"Are you stupid? You are idiots, right!? Do you really believe that this me will let even one of you, who came entering here aiming for the lives of master and ane-sama's, get away?" (Frau)

Her subdued laughter transforms into a loud laughter before long.

No matter how you listened to it, this wasn't the laughter raised by a being that donned the shape of a little girl. It was something that made the blood of all those hearing it freeze.

"I won't miss a single one of you! You shitty bugs, who don't even deserve to breath! You are the same as trash, not even allowed to exist! Your corrupted gazes! Those filthy blades! It's eternally impossible for you to reach my master and ane-sama's!" (Frau)

An ordinary grove of trees, the thickets, the shadows of the wall and the garden's ground.

Stretching out their hands, scratching with their nails and baring their fangs.

What resounded in the garden was cut-off screams of pain, swallowed groans or crunching death agony?

In the twilight of the very soon approaching night, the plain, common garden changes into an otherworldly, ominous place and Frau's mouth forms the shape of a crescent moon.

To the humans, who should be quite trained, in a place, where they are one-sidedly preyed upon without being permitted even the least resistance, Frau's voice reverberates.

"Die! Like the trash you are! Worthlessly! Meaninglessly! It's fine for you to disappear without leaving even one behind! If you want to bear a grudge, it's best for you to resent the stupidity of your employers and your own foolishness!" (Frau)

After a moment of silence, the screams and groans ceased.

Before long the voice of Frau, who started to talk again, was awfully gentle.

"However, it's fine for you to feel relieved. Kneading those useless bodies, I will bury them within the garden. My children are good children, therefore beautiful flowers will bloom using you as nourishment without a single piece remaining." (Frau)

Throwing away the dagger, she held in her hand, at a suitable place around there, Frau grips her right hand lightly.

Looking at the light leaking out from within the gaps of her grasped fist, Frau releases a single sigh of joy with a "Hoo."

On top of her palm, which she opened slowly, a single crystal, similar to a transparent gem, was finished.

"Even these meaningless lives can be offered to be efficiently used for the sake of master. Even the life of trash will turn into a bit of money, if I do this." (Frau)

The finished crystal.

It is a magic gem, which was created by gathering the lives of the humans, who were slaughtered moments ago. Softly tucking it away in the pocket of her skirt, Frau clapped her hands together with a single *pan*

"... This won't do ~no. I lost my self-control a bit too much ~no." (Frau)

While beating herself and her head with a *pon pon*, Frau mutters as if reflecting.

In the end Frau surveyed all of the garden, where no one was left, confirmed that there was nothing strange and returned inside the house with her feet once again making a sound of pitter-patter.

Renya is still locked up in the dining room. Undoubtedly Shion should have grandly spilled the black tea at the moment she toppled over.

If I don't clean the black tea's stains quickly, it will leave spots behind.

It's absolutely necessary to prepare a change of clothes and a bath towel for Rona's leaving of the bath.

Since she will likely be thirsty as well, I have to arrange for something to drink as well.

"Being a maid-san is a tough job ~nano!" (Frau)

Frau smiled sweetly and quickly hurried back to Renya's side in order to first unlock the door of the dining room.	

CHAPTER 46 IT SEEMS TO BE GOING ON A REQUEST FROM THE GUILD

Is there some good request?

Renya, who proceeded towards the guild while pondering about that, stopped his feet as he has discovered a crowd flocking in one part of the guild.

The current Renya is close to being penniless.

His earned money had been mostly used up for the expenses of the house purchase and buying ingredients to his liking.

Even though the contract isn't urgent on the repayment, the present state of being burdened by debts is an issue I have to resolve quickly, Renya concluded.

At present there's no hint of suddenly ending up suffering poverty.

The biggest reason for that was Shion and Rona providing small amounts of the funds, they saved up before meeting with Renya, however as for depending on them like that forever is something that Renya mustn't do to not be labelled as pimp before being called a swordsman.

Only that was something Renya wanted to avoid by all means.

Shion and Rona told me to not mind it because it's something like a rent, but I believe that there's no way for me to say "Yes, okay" just like that. Even so, that's probably one of the troublesome aspects of men.

At any rate, it's no good, if I don't earn money.

He considered opening the shop, but with the shop space, installed in the house, being in a state of not having been used for a long time, it's dirty and damaged here and there. At present Frau is repairing and cleaning it at a quick pace.

Putting the cleaning aside, there's material necessary to carry out the repairs.

Frau has out of nowhere said that she will provide that, however once he asked Frau, it seems to be a very Frau-like route of fund-raising.

"Raising my level, Frau will reach the point of producing magic gems ~no." (Frau)

Level? What's that? That question still remained, but while repeating the act of continuing to save the compressed mana, she has been receiving from Renya, Frau apparently obtained the ability to crystallize that mana.

Because the size is small and the purity isn't that high in degree, it won't go for a high price, however she appears to make small change by selling the magic gems, which were created with that ability.

It's unknown whether it might be fine to say that Renya is the one earning it since the source of the mana supply is Renya, if one thinks prudently, but because those magic gems have been created by Frau's skill, Renya is considering to be probably Frau's earning.

"As the loss at the moment of crystallization is large, I won't do it overly much \sim no." (Frau)

Frau says while being somehow apologetic.

Given that it is a deed similar to embezzling mana or rather black marketing it, so to say, she appears to feel slightly ashamed towards Renya.

"Is that so? Well, the current state is that it won't become more than pocket money for Frau and me either, thus isn't it fine for you to steadily make those, if it's not at a level of becoming an impediment in your livelihood?" (Renya)

"The mana, which I have received from master, is Frau's food. It's my link to master ~nano. Therefore I will only use it in a truly distressing moment ~no." (Frau)

Although Renya caressed the head of Frau, who is smiling broadly, with a "There, there", he tries to voice out an issue, he suddenly remembered.

"Which reminds me, what did you do after you locked us up in the rooms? I feel like no one came after you surprisingly said that the house has been surrounded, though?"

(Renya)

"There were visitors ~no." (Frau)

After showing a behaviour similar to pondering for a bit, Frau continued,

"But, they left right away ~no." (Frau)

Renya had a feeling as if he heard something else, but looking at the face of Frau smiling with a friendly grin, he decided to not mind about it as it's probably nothing major.

Since it's a different world, there's likely a delicate difference in the nuances of words.

Given that they are fellows, who left obediently after being persuaded by a girl, they might not have been such bad people.

While thinking such stuff, Renya approaches the crowd.

There he found a single bulletin board with request tickets from the guild stuck on it.

Once he tries to peek through a gap in the crowd of people, he discovers that the interest of the surroundings is pinned on a subjugation request, which was submitted by the guild.

The location is north of the city of Kukrika. It's a forest that's around a half day's walk away.

The forest, called 「Labyrinth Forest」, houses entrances to dungeons and is said to continue all the way to the Miasma Forest. It's such a big forest that its size is several times that of the city of Kukrika.

The request is to subjugate unspecified types of monsters, that live there. At any rate, if one defeats the monsters and recovers their magic stones, they will be paid a corresponding reward for that. It was quite the ambiguous request.

"How unusual, something like a subjugation request with no specification."

Someone from within the crowd said.

If it is a subjugation request of unknown types, it will be permanent and indefinite towards monsters, which have been somehow designated as seeds of danger.

With those only being requests where the monsters have a too high breeding ability, a high degree of danger or a high possibility of harming people, one can expect to be paid a reward, if one can prove that they defeated them, even without having accepted the request.

In reverse you can say, the monsters are difficult to find no matter how long one searches or are dangerous. Even if one tried to defeat them, there likely won't be much of a reward for doing so.

This time it means that you will be paid a subjugation reward by hunting any type of monster, as long as it's living in the forest specified in the request.

The adventurers in the surroundings are whispering that the request contents are normally unthinkable.

However, looking from Renya's point of view, since he doesn't know what's normal, his degree of impression or thoughts was no more than "Ah, such a thing, huh?"

"You don't say that an Overflow of the Labyrinth Forest is approaching?"

"What foolishness. The rate of monster appearances in comparison to the size of the labyrinth is low there. There shouldn't be any record of an Overflow having happened in that labyrinth."

"Have you used the records of god as reference there or what?"

"That forest, shouldn't it have a considerable amount of monsters?"

"It might be just right for earning some small change? It will be fine, if you hunt anything you can lay your hands on."

Each of the adventurers is chatting with each other in a tangle.

Renya feels suspicious no matter how he looks at the request and tries to search for another request without arousing anyone's interest overly much. But suddenly his feet stopped due to some words he heard.

"Come to think of it, the season of the forest octopus will be any time now. It might be good to try aiming for them together."

The one, who said it while grinning broadly and putting his hand against his chin, is an adventurer with the impression of a middle-aged man, who can truly be called a veteran.

"Hey, you over there." (Renya)

The called adventurer replies with a tendency of gradually pulling back from Renya, who grabbed his shoulders firmly with a serious look.

"Y-Yea?"

"You said season? Are those monsters possibly edible?" (Renya)

"What, ni-chan? You dun' know?"

That adventurer kindly taught Renya about the forest octopuses.

According to his explanation, forest octopuses are molluscs with eight legs living in forests. They are called a subspecies of the octopuses dwelling in the sea.

At first Renya was surprised about octopuses existing in another world, but he is even more surprised by them being octopuses land-dwelling in forests.

Forest octopuses move by standing on their eight feet. Their main staple food is small animals. They have proper, firm flesh for the sake of leading a life on land, in comparison to the ones living in the sea. They aren't watery.

"Although octopuses, they are land-dwellers... do those breath with lungs...?" (Renya)

"I'm no good with the sea ones, but the land ones are my favourite food. Sprinkling them in salt and grilling the dried ones for a bit, they are the best together with some sake."

"I see, I see." (Renya)

"If you air them until they have dried up by sunlight, they will be delicious to take a bite just like that as well. Give up on eating them raw though. Your teeth won't be strong enough for that. It's also no good to grill them directly from being raw. You won't be able to eat them since they will become as hard as shoe soles."

Probably, if you dry them even a bit, some enzymes or such will make them soft and they will become edible, I guess.

It's not always true that fresh flesh of animals is definitely delicious.

Because there are even things that are called the most delicious on the verge of rotting, according to some people, it's nothing particularly strange to not be able to eat it as long as it's raw, Renya could comprehend that.

"It's difficult to find a splendid one and be careful since it occasionally happens that people encounter a really big one. The big one, my acquaintance discovered, had a size surpassing 5 m. If they become this big, they usually eat people."

"Is there some relationship between deliciousness and size?" (Renya)

The adventurer replies while smiling wryly towards Renya, who is talking as if doesn't matter that they eat people.

"They aren't tasty if they get too big. It seems the most delicious ones are newborn children being dried whole. I haven't had the chance to eat them, however grilling the eggs is quite nice as well."

"I see... I heard something good. Thanks, please have a drink with this." (Renya)

Renya politely thanks the adventurer, he talked with, and slips several silver coins into his hand.

He had only few funds remaining, but Renya believes that he should pay a proper compensation for profitable information.

"Oh, sorry. If you go for the forest octopuses, it's a good idea to scatter small pieces of goblins and their likes other than the small animals, being in the area. They will approach being drawn by their smell."

Do they even eat goblins? He wondered for an instant, however he didn't feel anything particular like unpleasant feelings.

Someone, who minds such stuff, won't be able to eat octopus or shrimps in my former world.

"I see, all of it was useful. Thank you." (Renya)

Once he gives a bow and thanks him for the second time, Renya turns around and heads home.

Within his mind he was already coming up with plans how to capture forest octopuses.

"That means, it's decided to hunt forest octopuses and such while at the same time carrying out the guild's request." (Renya)

Returning to the house, Renya announced that to Shion and Rona.

Renya sums up the conversation in the guild to the two, who wish for an explanation of Renya's story, that suddenly skips several steps ahead.

"Ah, that, huh? That is certainly a delicacy." (Shion)

Once Shion said that while nodding, Rona also agreed.

"On top of the number not being that many in comparison to the size of the forest, they won't often appear on the market since they live in a place, where monsters appear. Because it can be said that adventurers, who sell them whole to restaurants and bars, are the sole supply-route, the prices are quite expensive, for that."

"Since the profit as business will disappear, if a large amount of them is caught, you might get them at a wholesale store, but there aren't many merchants dealing with them since their number on the market is too low", Shion grumbles.

"Going only by my count, I haven't eaten them much, but they are certainly delicious. They are tasty, if you put half-dried, thin slices into salad, pickle them or cook them with a finely cut produce called Western Alos." (Rona)

"Alos?" (Renya)

"Ummm... it's the raw material of sake and vinegar. It's a white, small-grained corn." (Rona)

Rona says while placing her finger on her chin as if recalling a memory.

Although Renya made sure to not show the shock, he received in his mind, on his face, it required all of his will power.

Isn't that likely √*rice* ∠, he wondered.

Although he might have lost his memories, Renya is originally a Japanese.

He can fill his belly with bread and pasta as well, but he was a man, who wants to eat rice, if it's possible to do so.

He resolved himself that he likely won't be able to eat it anymore as this is a different world, however, once he thought properly about it, there is ordinary wheat flour. Since vinegar itself is appearing on the market, you can only call it obvious for rice, which is its raw material, to be there.

While feeling slight disappointment due to his own carelessness, Renya tries to stress that it's a story, which has proper gains even if carried out as job.

"Since the guild will provide a reward for the monster subjugation, even if we don't capture it for example, it's a job that will at least turn into money, if we clear absolutely all of it." (Renya)

"It's not bad." (Shion)

Once Shion replied like that and as there wasn't anyone against it either, they quickly decided up to the point of departing in two days.

CHAPTER 47

IT SEEMS TO BE TRAVELLING INTO THE FOREST FOR THE REQUEST

This forest, without having been given a specific name, was simply an area called a forest.

According to Shion, "There isn't anything particular unusual in it either, it's just a forest", she told, but upon Renya's diagnosis, it takes around around 1 hour to slowly walk from one end to the other end of the city of Kukrika, therefore I believe it to be around 4 km in total.

In other words, if you consider Kukrika's square measure to be around 16 km^2 , hasn't this forest, which is several times that, around $60 \text{ km}^2 - 80 \text{ km}^2$ in just its square measure?

Because it will be at least called a sea of trees, if it even has 30 km² in my former world, to call this forest, which boasts twice that square measure, a simple forest is a pointless gap between different worlds, Renya feels.

However, going by Shion's group's point of view, if it's the Miasma Forest, which is the place where Renya descended for the first time into this world, its size extends the size of this forest by several hundred times. Thus it seems it that the people consider it to not be something to the degree of receiving a name.

Usually almost no people enter the forest. It appeared to be a quiet forest, but just now quite a number of people entered inside and a somewhat noisy mood of various people drifted about.

"Just how many parties are going to participate in this?" (Renya)

Pressing his hands against his hips, Renya, in a different appearance than usual, raised his voice in amazement.

The hem of the long coat, with its base colour being black, is an elaborately made article with silver embroidery at its edges.

With his trousers also having the basic colour of black, he is wearing his usual leather breastplate and arm protectors on top of that. In addition, he has boots, which were reinforced with iron plates, equipped.

The clothes were made by Frau in the night before their departure and presented by her to him.

While looking at Shion relentlessly thrusting her elbow into Rona, who tilted her head to the side unable to read the situation as she was wondering whether it was necessary for fairies to sleep, Renya, who received that, ended up unintentionally staring at Frau without knowing what kind of material was used just by touching it.

According to the points explained by Frau while she was bashfully rubbing her hands together as she was stared at by Renya, the speciality of silkies is related to clothes to begin with. There's no one as superior as them when it comes to the treatment of fibre.

"This Frau, using the fiber grasses she has been cultivating in the garden and the thread of a certain creature, which is living there, has created a cloth with the compiled thread by matching it with her own mana", Frau explained proudly.

It couldn't be helped that the gazes of everyone except Frau, turned towards the garden for some reason or another.

If you only looked, it was a slightly big garden of a mansion around there and had a kind of unchanging, ordinary scenery, but *just what the heck is going on in this garden*, everyone's thoughts aligned pretty much.

"Silkworms?" (Shion)

Shion asked while considering for it to likely not be that different, however her question was denied on the spot by Frau.

"It's different \sim no. The texture of the silk is better \sim no. However, its toughness falls behind \sim no." (Frau)

Putting aside the durability, is toughness really necessary for clothes? Everyone present at that place wondered about that. But that could be only deemed as something natural.

Besides, Frau, who doesn't realize that, begins to passionately explain about the

toughness of the clothes, she passed to Renya.

If you believe her words completely, they possess a certain degree of heat-resistance and cold-resistance and in addition they are self-purifying, albeit only slightly. They possess a self-repair function. While being cloth, it defends against sudden impacts by causing a reversible hardening. It has the effect of considerably lowering the sharpness of edged weapons and protects against blades by letting them slip.

With the effects being a cheat for something you have someone else use as simple clothes, they are moreover massively overspec'ed.

"Isn't that something precious?" (Renya)

He felt anxious about the origin of the materials, but more than that, Renya was worried whether Frau hadn't done something unreasonable. However, Frau smiled.

"No problem \sim no. It's something of the level that it can be made again, even if it gets torn \sim nano." (Frau)

Hearing that the same thing can be created once again, Shion and Rona make difficult faces.

If that's the truth, it's not unlikely for it to become a situation in which the city's drygoods stores hang themselves altogether.

"I see. Thank you." (Renya)

Giving her his thanks, Renya strokes Frau's head.

Shion looked at Frau, who receives that in bliss, while squeezing and biting her handkerchief for some reason, but Renya pretended to not notice that.

Being seen off by Frau's smile and with this and that, Renya's group arrived at the forest, however they have started to setting loose a feeling of disappointment unable to hope for much loot with big number of preceding visitors.

Where profitability is concerned by just hunting more and more, adventurers, who are extremely fond of money, shouldn't have any restraints.

Even though they are still in the vicinity of the forest's entrance, the struggle for prey

has already started. As quarrels between parties are apparently occurring, that only spurs on the clamouring.

"It might be difficult to hunt in the outer circumference parts." (Shion)

Looking through the gaps in the trees, Shion says while watching with a sidelong glance a group disputing over something.

What is lying at their feet is the corpse of a kobold, which is a monster walking on two legs with a dog head.

It's a monster at a level that the magic stone, which can be looted, is inferior to that of a goblin, but it's a truly unproductive view of them quarrelling over stuff like who brought it down and how much goes to who.

"Do you have an idea where the forest octopuses live?" (Renya)

"Basically, it should be close to water."

"They are amphibian?" (Renya)

"I don't quite understand that word, Renya, but they appear to hate for their body to get dry."

Then go back underwater, he ended up thinking instinctively, however he reconsiders whether his own part to play a role in would disappear since it would be the job of fishermen to catch them then.

"Let's catch them in the centre of the forest then as it's a location that has quite a few swamps in its surroundings."

"Swamps, eh...?"

Likely those were filled with stagnated water. Once he ends up thinking that it's probably a scenery you can't call clean by any standard, his feelings get depressed and complicated, too.

Assuming it's a source of a river, it's probably usable. Also, if the supply of ingredients ends up smelling of mud and is filthy like the other day, I won't have much motivation to go to that place.

Without a map, it's extremely hard to walk straightforward in a forest without a path.

Although intending to go straight ahead, one will end up slightly straying to either left or right, but miraculously Shion's intuition-like sense works for such things? If she instructs to go straightforward this way, they advance straightforward just like that.

Due to Rona muttering "Probably it's something wild boar-like?", Shion retorts (tsukkomi) with a backhand blow even though it causes quite the loud sound while heading towards the heart of the forest as the one being in charge of leading them.

Walking for around 1 hour while pushing their way through the undergrowth, they seem to have gotten quite close to the centre. And then the sea of trees parted.

In a slightly opened space, a swamp, which was hidden by slightly greenish water, appears.

Bending his knees at the waterfront, he gently tries to touch the water with his finger.

Renya frowns due to the bit slimy sensation, but even as he brings his nose to the wet fingertip, the level of smelling like mud is just minute, the water doesn't seem to be as dirty as I expected.

However, it's mostly impossible to use it as drinking water, Renya judged.

It didn't look like the sliminess and stench will disappear, even with boiling and filtering.

Once he looks up to the sky, he can see a blue sky as if it was torn wide open only at that place.

From within the sea of trees you couldn't see the sky as the leaves and branches have grown far too thickly.

Although Renya couldn't see the sun, he guesses that there's probably still time until sunset going by the blueness of the sky.

"Since we came here with the schedule of 2 days and 1 night, it's necessary to build a camp-site, but... I want to do some hunting."

"With a large amount of adventurers having entered the forest, it might be difficult

since there's no presence of monsters."

Shion looks sullen.

Thanks to stepping into the forest to some extent, the level of tumult in the outer parts was gone, but the monsters, who were hunted and driven away, are probably patiently enduring for the storm to pass by running about trying to escape or holding their breath.

"It might be more efficient to aim for one shot at a big prey, rather than earning income by hunting several small game."

"Even if you hunt more than 100 goblins, they wouldn't result in a big amount of money." Renya says while recalling the defensive battle in the pioneer's village.

"Renya, adventurers, who said such things and died, there's too many to count." (Shion)

Being rebuked by Shion, Renya ducked his head.

As the argument is far too sound, there's no room to object.

He picks up pebbles at his feet while getting up.

"Mmh?" While Shion throws a puzzled look at him, Renya threw the picked-up pebbles into the thickets a bit away by exercising wrist snaps.

Renya, who confirmed a faint response and a small, high-pitched cry, takes out a knife from his bosom and heads towards the thicket, where he threw a stone.

A light brown furball, having hair as if it's a bundle, cowered there.

Given that it apparently fainted due to being hit on the head by the thrown pebble, Renya finishes it off by stabbing the vicinity, where he believes to be the head, with his knife for the time being.

"Giant rat, huh? It's a big catch."

It was a rat with a length of around 50 cm, once he lifts it with his foot.

"This is a monster, too?" (Renya)

"No, that's an animal. No magic stone is created in its body."

The distinction between monsters and animals is the differentiation whether they have a magic stone in their bodies or not.

"By the way, forest octopuses are?" (Renya)

Seen from Renya view, either, be it animals or monsters, was fine with him, but he tries asking going with the flow.

"It's an animal. It doesn't possess a magic stone. But even without that, it's ferocious and attacks even people once in a while."

While believing that he likely wouldn't be able to differentiate them by only their outward appearance with him being a person from another world, Renya dropped the body of the giant rat on the ground and began to briskly dismantle it.

At first Renya wanted to eat it since he took the trouble to hunt it, however it's not necessary to be unreasonable since there are things, they brought from the city, for food.

Since that's the case, the most efficient utilization method here is to scatter it as bait for the sake of capturing forest octopuses.

The adventurer, who gave him that information, said that goblins would be good, however unfortunately those goblins are in the midst of being over-hunted by moneyhungry adventurers.

He considered to even ask them to give him just a corpse, but he hasn't felt good about them investigating his true motive by asking what he's planning or what for he wants to use it.

If he had the intention to eat it, he should first behead it and then hang it up upside down to drain the blood, but since according to the information, he heard at the guild, the forest octopuses are lured by smell, he deliberately doesn't drain the blood. Once he suitably chops it up roughly, the vicinity begins to be enveloped in the smell of blood.

It's different when it's only forest octopuses, but there might come other monsters being drawn in by the blood scent, he thought, but believing that it will be probably fine if they get the reward for hunting those at that time, he leaves the smell as it is.

Next Renya takes out a shovel, he got in the city, from his inventory and starts to dig a hole barely at the shore of the waterfront.

Observing Renya, who began to dig a hole, Shion, who somehow felt that today will end with this much work, started to construct a tent in a place slightly away.

If she plants the tent too close, they will loose sleep in case something was in the swamp. Since it's something unpleasant for people to think about how wet a swamp is, she apparently kept a distance taking those points into account.

The soil at the waterfront was soft. Renya opened a hole, with a depth that a person could get into it up to the hips, without having that much trouble digging it.

He buries a tall jar, he took out from his inventory, in this place.

Returning the dug-out soil to the surroundings of the jar, he covers it up so that only the opening part peeked out. In the jar are scraps of the giant rat's corpse, which was cut into pieces. He poured in a little bit of the swamp's water.

The octopus jar, land version, is completed.

Renya completes about 10 sets of the same thing at a distance, where the light likely won't reach, even if they used fire at the camp-site.

Originally the correct way of octopus jars is to use them by laying them sideways. To begin with, the jar is prepared as place for the octopuses to hide themselves. Because the original idea is to lure the octopuses to hide in there, bait shouldn't be necessary, but Renya was somehow doing it with half-baked knowledge.

If it fails, it will fail, that's the carefree approach he took.

"If I don't catch forest octopuses, I won't be able to go all out in tomorrow's hunt." (Renya)

Renya mutters while he looks up at the sky starting to be dyed red, once he noticed it.

Even if he was able to catch them for argument's sake, it wouldn't be that much of hunting spoils. It had a trend to become a deficit with the expenses, which were used on the prepared items, but he tries to not think about that as much as possible.

It's a life similar to half of it being a bonus.

There's absolutely no necessity to pursue military gains, results or accomplishments.

I'm sorry for Shion and Rona, with whom I'm associating with, however it will be fine for them to leave me on their own accord, if they get fed up with me.

Though I will regret it a bit too, Renya laughed weakly so that it wasn't seen by anyone.

CHAPTER 48

IT SEEMS TO BE THE NIGHT IN THE FOREST

Night, inside the tent.

Renya lightly opened his eyes catching a weak sound.

Being satisfied with the comfortable warmth within the sleeping bag, he relaxed his attention and was about to sink into sleep once again, but somehow he preserved in keeping his eyes open.

There were the sounds of the cackling camp fire bursting open outside the tent and he could see its glow slowly swaying through the tent's wall.

As only one tent was set up this time as well in the end, Renya almost ended up repeating the conversation, he had with Shion and Rona last time at the dungeon capture.

With the result being the same as last time too, Renya declared "Sooner or later I will really assault you!" in desperation, however Rona beckoned him with a composed smile and Shion didn't reply with a clear refusal, as she slightly blushed.

Although Renya tried saying "Your taste in men is quite bad!", it likely didn't appear as anything but a loser's whining.

Self-destruction, you can call it blowing himself up.

The order to stand watch was decided to be Renya, Rona and then Shion.

Renya opposed that as being probably too hard on Rona, but since Rona ended up explaining "As Shion will cling to you again anyway, I can tear off Shion from Renya, if it's this order, and will be able to change shifts with her. Also, if something happened, it would be possible to mobilize swiftly", he was unable to object any further, once he looked at Shion.

As for Shion, who was smiling while scratching her head with a "Ehehehe", he couldn't see even a tiny sign of remorse.

It seems that the event of clinging to me has already been decided.

Renya tightened his fist to hit her once for the time being, however once he was asserted by Rona of the side benefits, he lost even his will to hit her and they settled on that order.

Extracting his upper half from the sleeping bag, he can vaguely see the figure of Rona, who completely wrapped herself up in the sleeping bag, wholeheartedly sleeping with a peaceful sleeper's breath, once he looks to his side.

Rona being next to him means that the current period of time is when Shion is standing guard.

At the moment he crawled out from the sleeping bag and put on the tunic and sword belt, he took off for his sleep, the tent's entrance was quietly opened and Shion stuck just her head into the tent.

"You haven't done it?" (Shion)

Renya regarded her with futile killing intent due to her voice somehow enduring a laughter, but he controlled himself with an effort there.

"I will cut you and send you flying. You... what happened?" (Renya)

For the sake of threatening her he shows her the slightly unsheathed katana, however didn't Shion comprehend it or was it that obviously a threat? She wasn't shaken at all and only grinned at him.

"Pass it off as light joke. Somehow it feels like the forest has become noisy." (Shinon)

"Are you prepared for the day to come when your head goes flying due to those jokes? So, noisy, you say?" (Renya)

"I don't know, I feel it somehow vaguely. It makes me uneasy." (Shion)

Shion called her own feeling ambiguous with little confidence, but Renya immediately shook the sleeping Rona next to him awake.

While releasing a small yawn, Rona opens her eyes.

"What's wrong?" (Rona)

Although she looks drowsy, one can't sense any sleepiness in her voice.

As expected of a former knight, Renya ends up admiring her.

"Shion sensed some unusual event. It's indefinite information, but we should try to check it." (Renya)

"Alright." (Rona)

With that curt answer, Rona carelessly extracts her upper body half from the sleeping bag.

Rona, who took off her usual priestess' garb for sleeping, wears only her underwear. Given that two objects, which were very thick and heavy accompanied by a swaying, made their appearance with a *burun* in front of their eyes without any kind of preface, Shion's and Renya's looks got glued to them involuntarily.



"No, wait. Leaving me aside, why even you, Shion?" (Renya)

"Ah, just... those are somehow amazing, you know." (Shion)

"There's no feeling of tension, eh?" (Rona)

While laughing with a pleasant, high-pitched sound, Rona, without even minding at all being stared at by those two, began to quickly put on her equipment.

Should I call it as expected of an adventurer or of a former knight? Anyway, it's too early to make up my mind to resign myself here.

"We will vacate the camp-site and investigate the vicinity. Extinguish the camp-fire. I will create a light with lowered intensity." (Renya)

"Renya, what will you do about the jars?" (Shion)

Being asked by Shion, Renya's face distorts in mortification.

He didn't want to easily leave behind the jars, he laid out at great pains.

"I want to recover them, but... we probably don't have ... such spare time." (Renya)

"Isn't it fine, if you want to retrieve them? Let's dig them up." (Shion)

Shion, who readily declared that, says "Lend me a shovel" and holds out her hand towards Renya.

Renya is hesitating whether such thing is really alright.

"It's not a particularly urgent situation either. Isn't it fine?" (Rona)

"That's right, time is too valuable to be wavering around, Renya." (Shion)

Since even Rona held out her hand while saying "Please lend me a shovel as well", he takes out two shovels from his inventory while pondering whether it's truly fine like that and hands them over.

"Well, then we will dig up the jars." (Shion)

"Please dismantle the tent, Renya." (Rona)

As soon as they said that, the two step up to the planted jars and start to them dig up without even waiting for Renya's answer.

Renya, who came to the conclusion that time is too valuable to say anything about it, begins his work of folding the tent and tossing it into his inventory right away.

"Uwaa, Renya! Something disgusting has entered! Hey, you! Don't stick to me!" (Shion)

"The little ones or the large ones, you have the choice, you know." (Rona)

While being drained of strength as there's truly no feeling of tension, Renya took out further clothes and strings from his inventory.

"Please cover the jars' openings with the clothes and tie them with a string. I will store them away in my void storage afterwards." (Renya)

"Got it, Renya. Isn't it a splendidly big catch?" (Shion)

"It was worth it that we came here, you know." (Rona)

"Though I'd like to say that as well. You guys have really no feeling of tension..." (Renya)

Compared to him being told that they are difficult to find, a wonderful amount of large and small octopuses settled in the planted jars.

Were they lured by the bait? Or is it their habit to gather and rest like that to begin with? Renya wasn't able to reach a conclusion, however since it's a nice thing to have a big catch, I guess it's unnecessary to mind it either way.

It's like that because the adventurers aren't deliberately aiming for the forest octopuses. Isn't the cause of the big catch triggered by them having absolutely no wariness towards traps, or rather gadgets as there doesn't seem to be any dedicated hunters for those? Renya conjectured.

He throws the sealed jars into his inventory.

There's a single problem in regards to this, at the time Renya made various attempts in

his free time, he wasn't able to store living creatures into his storage as it is.

Even if he was able to store away plucked flowers, storing away potted flowers was impossible.

However, there's a loophole. If he packed them properly into a casing, he was able to store them away as they were treated as $\lceil Box: < Containing potted flower> \rfloor$.

If I properly put a person into a box, I might be able to store them away as well as they will probably be treated as $\lceil Box: < Containing human > \rfloor$.

Since he couldn't simply ask Rona and Shion to be packed into a box for a bit, as expected, it was currently at the stage of guessing though.

"So, what will be our next move after this, Renya?" (Shion)

Shion asks Renya, who tossed the jars into his inventory.

"First we will slowly move towards the outer circumference. Immediately report, if you you find or sense something strange." (Renya)

"Though I have been the one saying it. Is it good to make a move based on such vague information?" (Shion)

Although it was her, who said that she feels uneasy, that doesn't mean that there's definitely something.

Shion doesn't seem to be able to comprehend Renya's action of vacating the camp-site and moving upon such unreliable talk in addition to Rona's behaviour of not complaining at all.

"It would be nice, if there was nothing. Then there won't be any kind of problem either." (Renya)

Without chanting he activated the spell <Light> on his palm in a state of lowered illumination.

As he tried this out in a part of his training, Renya recently noticed that it has a proper practical use because he will be able to make sure that the light doesn't leak elsewhere, if he grasps it with his hand at the time of actually using it.

He activates the same thing on Shion's and Rona's palms as well.

"The problem would be when something happened. If someone senses something strange, we will cope with it more or less. You might regard this as timidity, but if I'm able to evade danger to my life by only being laughed at for being timid, then I will gladly accept being a coward." (Renya)

"Such a... coward?" (Shion)

"Well, you know. I don't know stuff like the common opinion." (Renya)

Even if it is a talk about his odd common sense and principles, Renya is unable to react in any other way than being troubled.

He doesn't know what he might have done, if it was his previous life, as he has no recollection of that. He hasn't found another method either.

Maybe his previous existence might point at the current him and laugh, if he saw him now.

Also, it cannot be helped that he has thought something like that several times.

"The chatting ends here. Let's move." (Renya)

""Roger."" (Rona & Shion)

After he sees both of them nodding at the same time, Renya begins to walk while leading the group.

Even if there's moonlight and even if it enters the forest, the light mostly doesn't reach the ground.

As expected, even Renya, without being able to see things in the current state of there being hardly any light, has no choice but to advance by mostly fumbling around while depending on the weak illumination from his palm. Naturally the walking pace has become slow.

Moreover it was also necessary to pay attention to the rear.

Is this also a result from training? Although Rona was apparently able to move to a

certain extent, Shion was a complete novice in regards to moving within darkness.

Watching her groaning from being hit on her face and head by low branches several times as she is unable to walk adequately with only the field of vision, secured by the palm's weak light, Renya grabs Shion's shoulder.

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"Renya..." (Shion)
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"Put your hand on my shoulder and keep up with me. Don't grasp my clothes? It will become a hindrance at the time I have to suddenly move." (Renya)

"I'm sorry. Thank you." (Shion)

Shion apologizes while gently placing her hand on Renya's shoulder.

Renya, who lightly taps that hand, said,

"You will eventually get used to it. Such stuff is a matter of experience." (Renya)

"Experience, huh..?"

"That's right. Once you are able to do it, you can answer "I'm able to do it for some reason, I guess" to the question "Why are you able to do it?" Skills and their likes are those kind of things." (Renya)

"In the first place, I won't be able to answer, even if you ask me about the common sense of something like the trick of being able to act at night-time." Once Renya said that, Shion laughed.

"Renya, I want to hold onto your shoulder as well." (Rona)

Rona, who enviously observed Shion walking while holding onto Renya, tells him, however Renya completely ignores that.

"Renya~!" (Rona)

"Be silent, you're annoying. Aren't you capable of walking even without help?" (Renya)

"It's a problem of my feelings~" (Rona)

"If I drag both of you along, I won't be able to mov... wait a bit." (Renya)

Cutting off his words in the middle, Renya calls Rona's attention.

Even Rona, who was complaining with a grumbling, immediately held her tongue and followed Renya's look.

On top of being unable to follow the suddenly changed atmosphere of the two, Shion lets her gaze roam around as she doesn't know in which direction the two's attention lies.

"Something stirred. ... It was fairly big." (Renya)

Even though Renya couldn't clearly look ahead with his field of vision, he noticed that something was moving around.

That appeared to be the same for Rona, too.

"I have a feeling that it made a metallic sound. Is it a person?" (Rona)

"Eh? Which way? Where?" (Shion)

In order for Shion, who is unable to recognize it, to follow, Renya points the light on his palm in the direction where he felt like saw something moving.

In his back Rona extinguished the light she was grabbing in her hand.

"That way. Do you see it?" (Renya)

Shion strained her eyes fixedly for a short while, but in the end she shook her head.

"... Sorry, I can't see anything." (Shion)

"It's not something you will be able to grasp within a brief time." (Renya)

Renya says to comfort Shion, who has dropped her shoulders feeling despondent.

"Renya, it seems to be heading over there." (Rona)

"Nicely seen. Do you know something about the other party?" (Renya)

"I'm sorry to say... I think that it's probably a person, but any more than that in this darkness, that's a bit..." (Rona)

Renya hesitates.

If we increase the illumination, we will likely know what the other party is right away, however if it was a dangerous being, the act of increasing the illumination would warn that being and draw it to us.

If it's like that, there's also the means of letting the other party pass by without increasing the illumination, but the other party's direction of movement seems to overlap with ours. If the other party was actually something that's able to infer the state of its surroundings even without relying on its visual field, it would become an one-sided disadvantage for only us.

Did the other party draw considerably closer to Renya's group while he was pondering this and that? It reached the point that the sounds of firmly stepping through the undergrowth could be heard by Renya's group.

"What shall we do, Renya?" (Rona)

"Let's increase the illumination. We will check out the other party. If it is something dangerous, we will run away with all of our strength. Is that fine?" (Renya)

"Understood." (Rona)

"I leave the decision to you, Renya. Will you do the timing to increase the illumination, Renya?" (Shion)

"Yea, also, if it gets too close, it will become troublesome at the moment when we want to run away. I will give you a signal." (Renya)

After exchanging those words in a whisper, Renya fixedly stares into the almost total darkness.

I won't be able to see it, even by increasing the illumination, if it's too far away. If it's too close, we will very likely be unable to get away once it's time to run away.

While considering the balance of those two aspects, Renya, who judged that it's probably fine around here, called out to the two in his back.

"Make sure to be able to escape at any time. I will increase the illumination. Shade your eyes with your hands so that you don't look directly into the light source. You will get disoriented." (Renya)

After ascertaining that both of them have covered their eyes with one hand, Renya cast the spell towards a branch in the grove of trees, which was as far away from them as possible.

The fair amount of intensity, which was set to the usual continuation period, brightly shines within the night's forest and allows to see the state of affairs in the vicinity.

Seeing something, which was bathed within the illumination of that light, Shion gulped and Rona prevented to leak her voice by holding her own mouth.

CHAPTER 49

IT SEEMS TO BE THE CONTINUATION OF THE NIGHT IN THE FOREST

At first Renya believed it to be some kind of undead.

Illuminated by magic light within the dead of the night, the conspicuous white skin was abnormal, even if seen from afar. It gave the impression of a corpse with no blood circulation.

However, the red fluid, which is continuing to stream atop its skin, reveals an intense bleeding. The violently rising and sinking shoulders are indicating that it's a breathing person.

Since the heart of an undead has stopped, it won't spill something like blood.

Not to mention that it's unthinkable for it to breathe.

However, even if you regard that as proof of it being alive, Renya couldn't possibly believe that thing, which is stepping forward while being tripped up by the undergrowth of the trees, to be a human being.

Probably it's a female adventurer, even Renya understood that somehow.

However, just how the heck did she end up in such a state? He has absolutely no idea.

Her dark blonde hair, which has grown down until the area of her shoulder blades, is dishevelled, disarrayed and dirty. Something sticky like oil is slimly glittering in the illumination of the light.

Unbeknownst whether they are looking this way or not, her blue eyes are hollow and lost all their light. They seem to be unfocussed.

The thing, which could probably be considered to have been a leather armour, has turned into a state that can't be called anything but scraps anymore. It's as if the armour is barely dangling from her body.

The clothes below have been torn all over, too, and are hanging on just like that. They already aren't able to fulfil their role as clothes and the skin below has ended up being exposed.

The woman is approaching little by little.

What ran across her bare skin were bites and scratches.

From the wrist of her right hand up until her shoulder there are blue bruises. They are closely crowded hand prints, which probably came from her arm being grasped tightly with quite the force.

Her left arm is missing from the root.

If you lower your sight a bit, you would see her abdomen swelling up with a bulge.

Her appearance was entirely similar to a pregnant woman, but there's no way for a pregnant woman to be expressly armed and loiter around in the forest at night.

Moreover, below that she is completely naked.

Was it ripped of by the undergrowth? Having countless shallow sharp cuts, there are further crowded hand prints from the ankles to the knees. Moreover, there are wounds as if she was bitten by something around the area of the thighs and there are also cruel wounds as if something was devoured by a mouth.

It's not possible to comprehend.

While protecting Shion and Rona in the back, Renya reflexively retreats a step.

Just what the hell ended up destroying her to that degree?

"She was probably attack by goblins or something else...?" (Renya)

"I think it's different." (Rona)

While preparing the mace, she carried with her, and grasping it tightly, Rona denied Renya's murmur.

"Even if it's goblins or orcs, it apparently never happens that the women, who were

kidnapped as seedbed, have even their genitals* abused." (Rona)

Rona's look is falling onto the base of the woman's missing left arm.

It's not a wound as if it was cut off with a sharp edged tool, but an awfully unsightly cut end as if the wound was splintered.

"That left arm has been likely bitten off, hasn't it..." (Rona)

"If it's a man-eater, ogre or something like that? However, I wonder if there was such monster in this forest..." (Shion)

Shion inclines her head to the side due to Rona's words.

Such Shion has a slightly indecisive attitude.

If possible, I want to escape, but I'm feeling reluctant to abandon the woman suffering in front of us, is what she feels.

"The characteristics of ogres are?" (Renya)

Without lifting his sight from the approaching woman, Renya asks while placing his left hand on the scabbard of the katana.

"A height above 3 m, gluttonous with absurd strength and low intelligence." (Rona)

Once Rona has summed up only the necessary information, Renya shook his head and denied Shion's hope.

"That's wrong. Umm, the finger marks, imprinted on her body, have the size of humans. In the first place, if it was a glutton, would it be satisfied with just one arm?" (Renya)

"The bites are somehow beast-like though... either way, that doesn't explain that big stomach." (Shion)

"In any event..." (Renya)

There's no method to save her.

Renya attempted to say that, but he halts his words due to the sudden scream raised by the woman.

"Gii... iga... gaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaah!!"

Looking up to the sky, with her knees on the ground, the woman screams while hugging her largely swelled belly with the sole remaining right arm.

Watching that belly starting to heave with a vicious beating from within, even Renya felt the blood draining from his face as one would expect.

"Be careful! She is keeping something in the belly!" (Renya)

"No, it's not like she is keeping it, is what I believe though, Renya?" (Shion)

"Shion, why are you so strangely composed in such situation?"

The swelled-up belly begins to tear apart slowly unable to withstand the pressure from within.

While spilling blood and some fluid that isn't blood from the newly caused wound, the woman is continuing to raise a scream that might as well tear her throat.

"Hey, won't there something absolutely bad come out from there?" (Renya)

Shion and Rona nodded, once Renya asked that question while smiling faintly for some reason.

"Let's take a bet? I wager 10 gold coins for something coming out though." (Shion)

"I will also bet 10 gold coins that something will appear." (Rona)

Renya replies with a somewhat worn-out voice to Shion's talk while she's suddenly clenching her fist.

"It won't be much of a bet since I believe something will come out as well. Rather, aren't you guys splendidly calm?" (Renya)

"I'm eagerly and impatiently waiting for you tell us to run away, though, Renya..." (Rona)

"I want to rescue her, but... it's probably impossible." (Shion)

Shion's expression is gloomy, but neither Rona nor Renya have the leeway worry about that.

Without an interruption in the woman's screaming, the right arm, which held down the swelled-up belly until then, has begun to tear off the surface of that belly next.

Cutting the skin with the nails, it's a chain of spreading the wound from the place, where it tore open.

The woman's surrounding is muddy due to the liquids discharged by her. It has started to give off a stench.

At the moment when Renya tried to give the order to escape thinking *this is getting more and more dangerous*, Renya noticed several shadows running this way from the other side of the woman.

Those are completely moving with a momentum as if running away from something. A sound of something massive following from even further back, while trampling the undergrowth and smashing branches, is audible.

"Renya, something is approaching again!"

"There's no need to confirm it anymore either, escape, run!" (Renya)

While looking over his shoulders towards the rear, he gives the areas around Shion's and Rona's hips a clap.

In the back of Renya, who began to run trying to follow while being one beat late as the two started to run taking that clap as signal, the woman's screaming abruptly stopped. He heard a wet sound of beating the muddy ground and a sound similar to a drenched cloth being torn off.

"Uwa, what's this?"

"Idiot, don't stop... hiii, i-it's coming this way... Say, guaaaaaaah!!"

What was audible in the rear are the man's voices.

The arriving men were thrown into a pincer attack by the something, which chased them from behind, and the something, which most likely left the woman's belly just moments ago, however Renya hasn't the slightest intention to stop and turn around for the sake of checking.

He completely focuses all of himself onto whether there is something dangerous or not in front as he simply runs.

"What... the heck?" (Rona)

"Don't talk, Rona, you will run out of breath. Shion, run straight ahead! Rona, don't get separated from Shion!" (Renya)

What arises from behind are the sounds of something wet being squashed by something and the sounds of flesh and bones being severed altogether.

Once you strain you ears, screaming voices, which are pleading for someone to help, seem to be occurring all over the forest.

Given that the light had already vanished and as you can't call it something like a covert operation either, Renya raised the intensity of the spell on the left palm of Shion, who is running at front, as it was close to vanishing.

"Shion! Use the light in your left hand!" (Renya)

"Got it!" (Shion)

Shion holds up her left hand over he head and releases the light. She keeps running while relying on that light.

She is followed by Rona and Renya is running as anchor.

While following those two, Renya clicked his tongue within his mind.

Renya's group, who moved in order to leave towards the outer circumferences, has broken into a run towards the real rear for the sake of getting away.

With this they have ended up heading towards the forest's centre.

"Shion, change the course! Be it left or right, turn in a right angle!" (Renya)

"Okay!" (Shion)

Grabbing onto a thin tree, Shion displays a remarkable cornering.

Rona, who chased behind her, stumbled a step or two forward as she was unable to follow that radical change of direction, however her waist was grabbed by Renya, who came after her, and they pursued Shion without losing any time.

"Sorry, Renya. It's alright, I can run." (Rona)

"Please do so. Even I want to avoid sprinting with all my power while carrying a person." (Renya)

Once he released his hand, his speed dropped a bit, but with Rona landing admirably without falling over, they began to run once again.

Although her priestess' garb shouldn't be suited for running with its long skirt, Rona's running speed doesn't even loose to Shion's.

The deep slit, which is on both sides of the skirt, doesn't seem to be only for the sake of appearance, I guess, Renya admires something strange.

"Renya, what the hell are we going to do after this?" (Rona)

Rona asks while running desperately.

"What we will do, you ask?" (Renya)

"What action will we take in this abnormal situation, is what I want to know." (Rona)

"Such thing has been decided from the start, right?" (Renya)

Renya states as if saying what are you saying this late in the game?

Shion, who's in the lead, releases a small sigh as she somehow has predicted Renya's next words from that remark.

Rona, unable to predict it, wrecks her brain whether it's something this obvious.

"In addition to leaving the forest as is, we will escape to the city." (Renya)

Ah, that's it after all, Shion thinks.

In this case the surroundings are definitely in a strange situation, but from Renya's point of view, they have no particular obligation to investigate the cause or to fight unreasonably.

For Shion as individual, she didn't want to take the choice of abandoning them and running away, if possible.

However, she was also able to understand Renya's notion, although only a bit.

He has no intention to expose himself and his comrades to the slightest danger for the sake of humans he has no relation and ties with, that's all there is to it.

"Renya... in case there are injured people or such..." (Shion)

"Do you think we can take them along? It's different if we have a wagon, but tell me, how do you want to take them along?" (Renya)

"In the first place, it's impossible to drive a wagon within a forest though", Renya continues.

"Indeed", Rona agrees, but Shion isn't incomprehensible to that degree.

She is well aware that her way of thinking can be called insufficient.

Even regarding the assessment of the situation, it was a fact that Renya's opinion was correct.

"Renya, I have a request." (Shion)

Shion, who ran in the lead, stops.

Renya and Rona were lured into stopping too.

Once she turned towards Renya, Shion said following,

"We won't be able to escape like this. I won't ask for something like saving everyone, but I want to investigate even if it's only about what has happened. This place isn't that far away from the city. If we abandon this place and run away, it might be possible for

the damage to spread even to the city." (Shion)

Renya demands Shion, who is claiming that while drawing close to Renya, to proceed with only his gaze.

Being overpowered by that gaze, Shion firmly resisted with the words "In other words, it will become like that" and continued her speech,

"Please, Renya. I want you to cooperate with me." (Shion)

Somehow she is able to imagine Renya's answer.

Even so, Shion couldn't help it, she had to request that.

Observing such Shion, Renya, without changing his expression, light scratched the area of his cheek with his right index finger.

CHAPTER 50

IT SEEMS THAT I'M STUPID AS WELL

"I will ask more or less just to be sure though." (Renya)

The tone of Renya, who opened his mouth, was calm.

Being somewhat scared by that on the contrary, Shion's body cowers.

For some reason Shion's gaze spontaneously fell on the katana at Renya's hips.

Noticing that gaze, Renya exhales slightly.

"We haven't associated with each other that long. But you do understand my way of thinking and my character, don't you?" (Renya)

There are no emotions in his voice.

Shion nodded due to Renya's tone, which was as if he was simply affirming it indifferently.

"Yea, I believe that I have grasped them." (Shion)

"Despite that... you don't have any intention to withdraw your previous statement, do you?" (Renya)

Although it was only by a small degree, Renya's gaze daunted Shion.

His eyes were only slight narrowed down. It is just that, but Shion falls into a sensation similar to being drenched in cold water from the top of her head down to the tips of her feet.

Shion frantically restrained the words "As expected, sorry, it was a lie, forget about it" which welled up in her throat.

"No, I have no intention to retract it. I want you to cooperate with me, Renya." (Shion)

I didn't believe that there would be a day when my own voice would sound this lifeless,

Shion thinks.

Even though we are in the midst of our escape, and even more so because those are the words of a hypocrite, Renya's and Rona's feet have stopped thanks to me.

How dangerous that was in the current situation, even for Shion the excuse that she doesn't understand didn't exist.

Even so, there's a reason why she can't pull back.

Although it wasn't like she was unable to speak about that reason, Shion couldn't reach a decision whether it was fine to tell Renya or not.

Once Shion glances in Rona's direction, she sees Rona sinking into silence with a serious expression.

Rona couldn't avoid being on Shion's side with half of her heart due to her position, but once she rationally considers with the other half of her heart that this proposal will expose Shion's body to danger, Rona concludes that she doesn't want to join her on that. Shion understands that somehow as well.

Rona is feeling that she wants this proposal to be discarded and cut in one single stroke by Renya.

In that situation Shion likely won't have any other choice but to follow Renya is what she is supposed to be thinking.

Although Shion has realized Rona train of thought, Shion is frustrated because the words to disprove that won't appear.

Of course, even if she revealed her own standing, the chances that Renya will get on with Shion's proposal are almost non-existent. Shion comprehends that too.

Nevertheless, in the present state, where I can't say that I want to do it like this because of that, it's inevitable for the words, I have said, to be considered the nonsense of an idiot by someone, who simply doesn't understand my position.

Though I don't know whether that's frustrating or vexing, Shion rebuked herself, who's close to weeping, to not screw around.

Since I will be just an idiot, if I cry here, my rank will fall even lower to that of a stupid girl, who appeals to a man by relying on her tears.

I want him to at least understand that I have spoken seriously.

Hoping for only that, Shion fixes her eyes on Renya.

In contrast to that, Renya was pondering about something totally different from what Shion has imagined.

Voicing it out clearly, the Shion, seen by Renya, is no more than a naive ojou-san, who throws tantrums with her flower-field-like way of thinking within her head.

She isn't even able to assess the situation. For some reason she shows resistance to completely abandon other people.

It's not particularly a problem of hypocrisy.

There is the saying that "Being a hypocrite is better than not being virtuous" since the old days. That will pretty much change with the conduct though. Even if she's only trying to move by herself, I have a far better impression of her than of the bunch, who gets cocky by just ordering "You do it" from an elevated position, Renya considers

Certainly, that little girl, who sent me to this world, shouldn't even reach the worth of being dirt under Shion's nails.

And so the current situation was an event within Renya's range of prediction.

That's why Renya is considering it like this.

Was it noticed?

I planned to escape by hopping onto the momentum of the situation before Shion realizes the necessity of investigation and the possibility of rescue, but that didn't go too well, Renya clicks his tongue lightly.

Now that she realized it, there were two choices, Renya could make.

One, to refuse it curtly and discard it.

Even if Rona sided with Shion, they wouldn't be able to investigate and help with only the two of them.

At best it will only become a second and third repetition of the killed female adventurer, who was bitten and torn from inside by the something from before.

Two, to agree with Shion's proposal.

Renya didn't happen to have even the slightest attitude of considering himself to be amazing, but even so, if he accompanied those two, he had the confidence that they at least would be able to walk around without dying.

However, somehow that's not like me at all, is the sentiment Renya has.

In the first place, there's no reason that I must do it, even if I'm able to, in the current situation.

I'm really not cut out for such setting', he leaks a sigh.

If I were a protagonist in a fairy-tale, it would be a setting, where I pick up my sword in high spirits due to the request by a beautiful maiden, but it's not like I can do something this ridiculous, Renya ended up judging and felt just a bit lonely.

Even if I judge it like that, since I'm simply not able to do something I'm not able to, a behaviour like that, similar to a cool protagonist, should be left to people, who are able to do it. I have to ponder how I should act and proceed from here on, Renya decides.

In fact the choice of refusing Shion's request had been eliminated by Renya from the very beginning.

If you look for reasons, there are many, however the biggest reason is that in the same way as Shion is relying on Renya, there are also parts, where Renya relies on Shion. That means that Renya has acknowledged that point by himself.

Renya has no relation with anyone from anywhere in this world.

That's an extremely miserable story, Renya always thought.

It might be seen as cool, if you write it off as another world transfer, but the position, Renya has been placed in, is ultimately nothing more than being a plain loner.

Although his body has the age of 18 years, it's not like he passed those 18 years living in this world. There isn't a single person, who has a blood relationship to him, either.

His insides are those of a 94 years old, but the memories and relationships of those 94 years were from the environment of his previous life.

In other words, no matter how you look at it, the existence called Kunugi Renya is nothing more than a foreign body in regards to this world.

He was saved from that concept to some degree by the two beings called Rona and Shion.

In addition to that, he began to form bonds to a maid-san and friends here and there, too, but the ones, who extended a helping hand towards Renya, unbeknownst whether they could become comrades, were those two.

Of course, their self-interest in the act of lending a helping hand can't be helped since humans are calculative like that.

The ones who demand something with no compensation from a stranger are called greedy.

Besides, Renya thinks while reflecting upon his slightly shameful desires.

if I ended up laughing at Shion's matter as the utter foolishness of a teenager although it's only the naivety of thinking, as it's not accompanied by true strength, what will become of me, I wonder?

At any rate, being moved by the words of that little girl "If you don't go, many people will die due to the collapsing world", I'm an extremely foolish guy, who ended up crossing the boundary for the sake of protecting those lives and the world, I have absolutely no relation with.

There are also the viewpoints that I was lured by delicious food or that I would just die like that, if I hadn't accepted the deal, but in the end it's only that I was unable to forsake the words "Please help."

Although I, who became a Lost for such reason, can't give a motive, there's no way that I'm able to refuse this matter by laughing at Shion, who has appealed that we cannot afford to run away while overlooking things like this.

"Renya..." (Shion)

Shion mutters while trying to take a peek at the face of Renya, who ended up brooding.

Immersing himself within his thoughts, Renya noticed her look, breathed out once as if troubled and looked up the sky with his arms folded.

Somehow I want to really smoke a cigarette, Renya thought.

I don't know whether I smoked in my previous life. I also don't know whether it might be fine to smoke a cigarette in the world over here with the age of this body. In the first place, I don't even know whether there is something called tobacco in this world, however it is after all better to release cigarette smoke than breathing a sigh, is what he felt like.

It has been often enough said that it's doing no good and a lot of harm, but since tobacco has an effect of stabilizing the mind, it has at least one advantage, I guess, Renya believes.

And currently Renya strongly desired that effect of stabilizing the mind.

"As for me cooperating..." (Renya)

Renya says while still looking up to the sky.

He absolutely didn't feel like he could talk in his usual tone, if he looked at the faces of Shion and Rona.

Without even seeing, Renya could imagine what kind of face Shion and Rona are making.

Surely Rona has an expression as if she has encountered a ghost on a street in the night. Shion is probably making a face as if she is swinging her tail, if she had one, with all power while doing her best as puppy, who received her feed.

"I want you to act in accordance to my opinion. Any objections?" (Renya)

"Renya... that is..." (Shion)

Shion raises her voice making a complete turn towards dissatisfaction.

She doesn't understand my feelings either.

Probably, by not adopting all of Shion's opinion, she is likely presuming that Renya is talking as if dropping it at halfway.

However, this aspect is a part that can't be conceded, even for Renya.

He is unable to expose acquaintances to danger for the sake of strangers.

"I'm unable to pick the method of searching within the forest from now on. It would be a different story if Rona and Shion excelled in combat and mobilization during night equal to me, but to be frank, it's impossible since both of you are only nuisances. Since this is concerning our lives, I have told you my evaluation in this area in a harsh way." (Renya)

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"Uuh..." (Shion)
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Renya argues vehemently with Shion, who is unable to object, only at the critical moments.

At any rate, Renya had the notion that it will be no good to give Shion the time to object or to think about it.

"Even though we are wielding weapons, that's difficult within the forest. Our movements will be inhibited as well. As the other party seems to be able to move around freely even within the forest, we are at an overwhelming disadvantage in regards to the terrain. Fighting in an unfavourable terrain is equal to suicide." (Renya)

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"Yea..." (Shion)
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"Even without that, you are weak, Shion. I thought you would be capable as you are fairly swordsman-like, if going by your dignified appearance, but in the end there's no other way but to call you weak. If you are weak in regards to combat and as your intellect is disappointing too, I don't even know what place would be good to praise. Since you don't reach Rona in sex appeal by far and as Frau has established a hopeless lead in regards to cuteness, it means that you can't even become the party's mascot." (Renya)

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"Yea?" (Shion)
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"In addition, on top of having insufficient assessment of your own situation, you don't possess the ability to plan either. To begin with, although you talked about investigation in that direction, it's a truth, even a child would understand, that there's no way we can do that as there is nothing but amateurs here. Even regarding the rescue activity, there's no way that we will be able to lead the move of humans and injured people to safety with only the three of us. Since you don't even have the brain to grasp such a thing, I believe that you should silently head right without complaining or objecting, if I tell you to go right." (Renya)

"U-Umm... Renya...?" (Shion)

"So, for those reasons be quiet and do as you are told. Listen to what I tell you before making the situation any more complicated than it is." (Renya)

"Ah, yes..." (Shion)



Once Renya declare so and brings his face close without hesitation, Shion, who lost to his intensity, nods unintentionally.

"I took this as promise", while making a triumphant pose within his mind, Renya issues instructions before Shion can say anything unnecessary.

"If that's the case, let's leave the forest right away. The story starts from there." (Renya)

Once Shion nods, Renya, who claps the back of Rona, who intently watched the situation, begins to move once again aiming for the outside of the forest.

"Renya! Once we leave the forest, what do you plan to do after that?" (Shion)

Shion asks while running.

While wondering whether she still had leeway to ponder over such things, Renya answered.

"Moving just like this, the two of you will run to the city. Rushing into the guild, attached to the city, you will explain the state of affairs being that all of a sudden unknown monsters appeared and that quite a number of the parties, who went into the forest after having received the subjugation request, have died. Then you will tell them to organize a subjugation unit and an investigation unit." (Renya)

"Will they listen to us?" (Shion)

Shion says anxiously.

Such concern certainly existed.

Even if Shion and Rona, who are nothing but mere members, suddenly tried requesting the formation of something like a subjugation unit, it would be very difficult to imagine the top brass of the guild to immediately move to deal with that.

However, that's only the case if Shion and Rona are truly simple adventurers. Renya doesn't know the details about Shion's side, but he has experienced that at least Rona should have a method to force her opinion through since she is a knight.

"Rona, do something about it." (Renya)

"Understood." (Rona)

As expected by Renya, Rona simply nodded.

"Renya, just now you said the two of us? What will you do, Renya?" (Shion)

"You are quick-witted only at pointless places", Renya curses taking care that it's not audible.

"If even I travelled to the city, that's no different of us three escaping, right?" (Renya)

"Eh? No way..." (Shion)

He cannot afford exposing people, he became acquainted with, to danger for the sake of strangers.

By his own judgement, the one, who is fine to be exposed to danger for the sake of strangers, is only the one who made that call.

"I will guard the vicinity of the forest's entrance. I think that it will probably be alright, but if by any chance those monsters leave the forest and head towards the city, it will likely be my role to hold them back." (Renya)

"Renya! Such a..." (Shion)

The surprised Shion tried to stop that due to Renya's statement, but Renya interrupted her words in the middle.

"Shion, remember. If you try to somehow forcibly do something beyond your powers, you will unreasonably harm someone else than yourself or in the worst case it will result in you killing that person. I don't understand why you persisted on saving other people, however if you continue to make such decisions from now on as well, the same troubles will be repeated over and over again." (Renya)

"Renya... I'm..." (Shion)

"You don't need to particularly explain your circumstances to me. At the time I told you to listen to what I say, you affirmed that. As that's the case, shut up and do as you were told." (Renya)

Shion, who attempted to say something, held back. Renya smiled at Shion, who is looking at Renya while running in front.

"Oh well, this time I will be able to manage somehow. If you are worried, please return to the city quickly and bring along reinforcements." (Renya)

It will be great if Shion's way of thinking changes a bit with this, while hoping that, Renya cracked a joke wondering whether he is too pathetic for being intimidated as well.

CHAPTER 51

IT SEEMS TO BE TRYING TO PRACTISE MAGIC

Standing stock still as he is teased by the wind, he fixedly stares at the forest.

In an environment, where there are no other sounds, the rustling of the trees leaves in his ears stirs a strange feeling.

The screams, audible once in a while, are likely from the adventurers, who are still left behind in the forest, but although it's evidence that something is happening in there one way or the other, Renya tries to not think of their fates.

The wind changes.

The wind, which has been blowing from the forest's direction and is blended with the fragrance of the forest's trees, had the stench of something rotten and of iron rust mixed in.

It's a stench that worsens one's mood, Renya frowns.

Since it's mixed in with the fragrance of forest trees, which is said to have the effect of soothing the mind, he ends up experiencing the disgusting stench as strong and prominent.

It's only a disgusting stench because I don't want to smell it, while thinking that he is deceiving himself somehow, Renya comes to a complete standstill.

Once the non-attribute magic spell <Ventilation>, which he activated and was amplifying with all his strength, blows from behind Renya in order to oppose the wind streaming from within the forest, the stench as well as the wind are washed away in one lump and get pushed back into the forest.

If it's like this, I won't be assaulted by that repulsive smell, Renya takes a breath.

Actually, his intention is another one.

Shion didn't realize it until the end, but even if Renya monitored a single part of the

forest, it's not like he would also be able to restrain monsters, which leave from another place.

Usually it's something she would notice, however was it because she was tormented by feelings of guilt for leaving Renya behind by himself? Shion didn't show any behaviour that she had realized that at all.

As for Rona, Renya didn't properly know.

Didn't she mention it after noticing it? Or was it something that didn't matter to Rona? Is it both or neither?

Given that he won't reach a conclusion even if he tries to ponder about it, Renya stopped that train of thought.

At any rate, it's not like I can cover the extent of a wide area by myself.

That is the real problem.

Since that's the case, what shall I do so that the strange monsters, which are currently in this forest, won't leave from here and will it be fine with me making sure that they don't get close to the vicinity of the city?

The answers to those questions weren't that simple for Renya.

He couldn't say it with certainty, but even so there's a method to guide the monsters, who might decide to leave the forest, towards his own location.

Letting the wind carry his scent into the forest, it will be fine, if that tells the monsters that a lone human is in this place.

The monsters, they encountered in the forest, borrowed the belly of a person, pursued escaping humans and actively assaulted them.

If those are monsters, which have the trait of attacking people, they will almost certainly go for humans, which are in fairly close vicinity, next, after they ran out of adventurers to hunt within the forest.

I'm going to deliberately transmit into the forest that those humans are here.

This can also be regarded as a kind of provocation.

"Really... I'm an idiot too after all." (Renya)

He mutters in self-mockery.

Shion and Rona will definitely return to the city as soon as possible, probably by running or walking without rest, Renya believed.

As the luggage, they brought with them, would only be a nuisance, they have left everything but their weapons behind.

Renya, for whom that was too wasteful, stored everything in his own inventory after their two's figures became distant.

He hasn't looked at the contents though.

That's because certainly there should be things inside, which aren't meant for his eyes.

Accordingly, as they are moving in that condition, they will probably arrive at the city in a bit more than hour, if they are fast, and in a bit less than two hours, if they are slow, is Renya's expectation.

From then on, they will rush into the guild, wake up the staff and give a report to the top brass. Even if they get a late start, since it won't do, if they don't pick people, who are quite skilled, for the investigation team, they will head this way alongside the adventurers, who will be gathered for the subjugation and who are able to fight reasonably well.

Now that I think about, just how many hours will that take? Renya felt like getting depressed.

As long as the guild's top brass isn't filled with big idiots, they will probably dispatch an advance party for now and need about 3~4 hours for gathering people and materials until their departure.

If they are properly told that they must hurry, they will likely use horses or coaches for the move and would arrive here in around one hour after departing from the city.

If I give them a bit flexibility time-wise considering that there are various other things

to handle one way or the other, won't I be relieved from my post, if I keep monitoring for around 8 hours? That's Renya's wishful thinking.

That doesn't mean that everything is always progressing in a smooth manner.

Having a futile discord and strife over responsibility, the thick-headed top brass might not listen to Shion's and Rona's points.

It's not difficult to anticipate that it will likely create problems such as being unable to gather people or being unable to obtain materials, since it's still night and dawn isn't breaking yet.

In the first place, as a fairly high number of adventurers is suffering monster injuries in this forest, there's also the concern whether there are still enough people remaining in the city to form a subjugation unit.

"Although it's vague... I have a feeling that the formation of a subjugation unit is too early." (Renya)

He looks up to the sky murmuring this in a whisper.

To begin with, 'if you hunt indiscriminately monsters by going into the forest, you will be paid money in proportion to what you hunted', such a request is just strange, Renya assessed.

If it's a normal request it will be 'Thin out the goblins because they have increased too much in number' or 'A large number of women were abducted by orcs in the vicinity of a village, rescue the women and slay the orcs.'

'Just go hunting whatever', that style of a request is clearly odd.

It wasn't like there wasn't any possibility for relief measures towards beginners, since it's not a forest, where overly strong monsters appear, or because they have been in a dire situation regarding the magic gem stock, but Renya hasn't heard of such talks or rumours.

If you look at in a very shrewd way, isn't this a large-scale lure to bait careless adventurers, who haven't realized the request to be kind of weird? He has such suspicion.

Of course it was a viewpoint that won't leave the stage of being a conjecture. Being simply preoccupied with the forest octopuses, Renya, who noticed that possibility, is undoubtedly too late now since it's after they were attacked by unidentified monsters in the forest.

If that viewpoint is correct, there's also a likelihood that the formation of a subjugation unit and a investigation unit has been already completed.

Incidentally, in that case the report might reach the guild faster than Shion and Rona, too.

If there's bait to angle, there should naturally be a string and a hook attached to the bait.

"The hook's task is only to be an indication that things like the bait were bitten off. What ki..." (Renya)

Blending in with the adventurers, whose role is to be bait, there might be a party, whose role is to be the true hook.

However, the sounds, audible from within the forest, are getting less with the passage of time. Before long they can't be heard at all anymore and the figures of another party, which leaves the forest besides Renya's group, can't be seen either.

"If I'm right with this conjecture, they are annoyed to willingly abide by the scheme of the planner." (Renya)

Within Renya wells up a feeling that he wants to achieve a conclusion, like knocking the opponent out of their wits, with a single blow just like that.

It's probably what one would call feeling mischievous.

However, he can't come up with a good idea what should be done and how it should be done to induce such outcome.

If I possessed fire and ice spells, I could focus all of my mana, that seems to be more than enough, into turning the forest into ashes or freeze it over. However, with wind magic, which has good affinity with me, I can at best blow away the trees. Although I have a feeling that even that would be fine, it somehow lacks flashiness, Renya, who thought that, suddenly has an idea while looking up to the sky.

This world is in a state similar to being a miniature garden placed on a tray. I heard that from that little girl before I came to this world.

Below the tray there's nothing, emptiness.

Seen from another angle, how about above the tray?

In this world there should one or two mountains of the several-thousand-meter class.

If there are mountains, there's a layer of air as well. It should have a considerable thickness.

Moreover, I have no memory of a hot bath becoming hot quickly in a strange way after coming to this world either.

In other words, the atmospheric pressure is the same as in my former world. Isn't in conceivable that it has the same air layers, too?

And, isn't it likely set up that the air will get gradually thinner the higher the altitude, just like in my former world?

"Congregate, my power, rise to the atmosphere..." (Renya)

If it's wind-attribute magic, he has already bought notes covering all of the known spells from Khalil. Renya has finished looking through all of them.

Even in regards to the utilization restraint, right after releasing the restriction on the elementary magic he released non-attribute magic to be limitless with the same method.

The cast spell is an advanced spell of the wind system.

However, originally you arrange the image to have an effect of blowing things upwards from below, Renya has modified it to be the reverse, or in other words it slaps something downwards from above.

Incidentally, given that it won't be amusing for him to suffer damage from the aftermath of his own spell, he erects a wind wall around himself.

Predicting the phenomenon, that will occur from here on out, he repeatedly deployed

walls in a shape similar to a firm, vast cocoon by overlapping several parallel magic formulae activations.

After waiting for the deployment of the walls, Renya holds up his right hand towards the sky and continues all chants while clenching his fist as if completely grasping the air.

"Wind, rage in a whirl, strike the ground according to my desire!" (Renya)

The original incantation is 「Pierce the sky according to my desire」, but he has rearranged the chant as well since it's into the reverse direction.

As he will recover almost all of his mana right away, except the one used to maintain the defence walls, he pours as much as possible into the spell.

Creating a circuit of words, the spell is completed by pouring mana into that circuit.

At that moment Renya's surroundings were swallowed up by smoke and thunderous roars.

In a far away place.

If you looked at it from a far higher point of view than Renya, you could probably see the enormous funnel.

Originally the natural phenomenon called tornado is a phenomenon of sucking up things from the ground and hurling those into the sky, but this inverse tornado sucks up everything from the sky and slaps it onto the ground.

Rather than describing it as tornado, it was more correct to call it a a huge whirling tide, which strikes the things, which are located in the sea, onto the bottom of the ocean by dragging them into the vortex.

The huge whirling tide, which reaches an overall height of 20 km, grabs a cluster of cold air from a distant height, swallows up the humidity of clouds en route and roaringly pours down on the forest in front of Renya's eyes, who brings it all together.

"It's a failure~ this..." (Renya)



While absent-mindedly gazing at a huge amount of white smoke, ice and unknown things streaming with a roaring sound outside of the defence walls, which are wrapping him up, Renya grumbled.

Without considering anything but to scrape off and attract the cold water, which is likely there, from a high altitude in the sky, he didn't think about a method to deal with the cold air, which was dragged along and discharged, at all.

In reality it's a circulation of creating ascending air currents with external descending air currents. The effective range of the spell might have been limited, but because an external air current wasn't created, the cold air, which was slapped onto the ground, started to freeze the vicinity while spreading out.

Let's cancel the spell right away? Renya wondered, but he immediately changed his thinking to *I have already done it now anyway* and slowly drove the wind funnel towards the centre of the forest.

In accordance with the departure of the funnel, the force of the wind, flowing in the surroundings, has become weaker.

Even so, Renya doesn't dissolve the defence walls.

Renya didn't know how far the temperature of the cold air, which fell from the sky, would follow his knowledge from his former world, but if it's according to his calculations, it should be roughly -70°C.

Even if there was some loss due to the fall and dragging along, there is no doubt that such temperature will almost certainly lead to death, if there are humans without any kind of equipment there.

Renya was safe as he constructed several layers of air as wind defence walls, which were earnestly deployed multiple times. Because he was within that cocoon he was able to anticipate that he would likely freeze to death at once, if he released the walls.

"The people of this world probably don't know something like a down-burst. Oh well, I think that even my former world didn't have something like a down-burst, which causes such large-scale and big damage, but..." (Renya)

The forest, which is occasionally visible through breaks in the white smoke, was transformed into a brilliant white world.

Freezing trees and weeds all the same and likely all the monsters and animals, which were in there, as well, everything and anything was plunged into a homogeneous white world.

"Let's say it was caused by a natural disaster. Yea, let's just do that." (Renya)

Even if I honestly reported that it was me who did it, there won't be anyone, who believes me, anyway, I guess.

Since that's the case, it would be more credible even if I said that it was a natural disaster caused on a whim of god, Renya decided to push the entire matter onto the gods of this world, whose faces he didn't even see yet.

They aren't managing this world decently anyway. They have been engrossed in playing the jindori game.

From Renya's point of view, since I have been made to cross over into this world thanks to your negligence, you can take the blame a bit.

"At any rate..." (Renya)

Once he cancelled the spell, the huge funnel was released into the atmosphere with the same speed, as when it arrived, and vanished.

The cold air and humidity, which were contained within the released atmosphere, were purged and all around snow began to fall.

While watching the large snow flakes heavily falling and piling up, Renya complains, without talking to anyone in particular,

"After all, I have no talent for magic, boo~..." (Renya)

Even an average magician, if used normally, has no purpose if it becomes a great disaster once they use their full power.

As far as the eye can see it's a white-dyed world. While wondering *Well, when will it be alright to release the wind defence*, Renya made a big, deep sigh due to creating a situation at the same level of a large-scale disaster.

CHAPTER 52 IT SEEMS TO BE INTERLUDE 6

"... Oh?"

Separating his lips from the teacup he just sipped from, he caught sight of a small violet sphere breaking on top of the table once he casually raised his sight.

"Is something wrong, nee~?"

The one who asked, is sitting on a chair on the opposite side across the table. The bundle of bandages is quite difficult to describe.

It has a pretty humanlike shape, but its thickness isn't common. Will one turn into that form, similar to a poorly made bear plush toy, if they twine who-knows-how many bandages around themselves? Although slightly, it has piqued his interest.

"Well, it looks like the core which flew through the Forest Labyrinth was destroyed."

It's a fact the human race doesn't know; the Forest Labyrinth has already been taken into our, the demon races', possession.

A transfer gate has been established by our hands with one entrance on the demon races' continents' side and the other one on the human races' continents' side.

But then again, although the gate has been installed on the side over there, around a single person can be sent through the gate because we weren't able to bring many materials over.

Moreover, it's flaw is that its usage fee is ridiculously expensive, however if it's for the sake of research, there's no choice but to come to the decision that slight expenses can't be helped.

"What the heck are you doing over there?"

"A practical test of the new monsters. It's a superb monster that eats humans, multiplies in their abdomens and fuses with their bodies."

I embedded a core into a control unit and tried to send it over, but with the master core on our side getting destroyed, it seems that the core over there was destroyed by someone.

I feel slightly irritated as I wasn't able to get much data.

Nevertheless, the goal is to obtain the required data from a great number of failures and a few successes by repeating the experiment many times over.

For example, with it being an operation similar to getting one winner from drawing a large number of lots, I will likely be disqualified as researcher if I raise my eyebrows each and every single time I pulled a miss.

"It was a genuine experiment regarding their fighting strength and breeding speed, but..."

"It's a failure, nee~? My condolences."

Who will blame me just because I felt a tinge of bloodthirst towards the bundle of bandages, which laid on top of the sofa with its legs outstretched while flapping its limbs.

Even so, it's a mysterious cloth bundle.

Although it completely fails to expose a single thing, be it eyes, mouth or anything that qualifies as an organ, on its surface, it appears to be looking this way. Even its voice is easy to understand and clear without any mumbling.

I think it can't be helped that I want to unwrap it once.

Or rather, let me unwrap it with a *snap* once, by all means.

I have no doubt that I will definitely be able to see something that will satisfy my curiosity.

Once I looked at the bundle of bandages while pondering such things, the bundle of bandages, which noticed it was being watched, shook its body with a start.

"What's wrong?"

"Just now, something cold... the wind, nee~?"

"Demons can catch colds?"

"Can they? Well, since there are many hot-blooded idiots, it looks like there are also fellows who don't notice catching a cold, nee~"

The bundle of bandages raises its voice in a giggle.

Tentatively, there are more superior demons than me. Even if I'm a researcher, I'm the equivalent of a leader, but since I quite prefer light speech and conduct like this, I have been branded as eccentric. I also don't overly much... no, there was a single person, I don't want to get involved with as much as possible.

"Is it a laughing matter, I wonder? In the first place, if you speak of failing the experiment, you ran an experiment in the same area as well. Didn't it merely fail because it was obstructed by people?"

Once I bluntly said so in a tone that was mixed with a small amount of sarcasm, the bundle of bandages abruptly stopped laughing.

Did I offend it? I wonder for a moment, however it's impossible to read its expression with a glance at its face, as it's no more than a bundle of bandages after all.

To begin with, given that I don't understand where its eyes are, it's uncertain whether it's even looking this way or not.

"That doesn't particularly mean that it failed though nee~"

The voice, which was emitted by the cloth bundle a short while later, didn't have anything like discomfort mixed in it for now.

"Did you collect the necessary items? I was just stopped for a little bit on the way nee~"

"I've heard you even lost the experimental magic gems. It's a failure if it goes into the red cost-wise, I think."

"This is harsh nee~"

The badly-done bear topples over on top of the sofa, spreads out both its hands and looks up to the ceiling.

Every single one of its movements is exaggerated and comical.

It's strangely rubbing me the wrong way.

Although I will immediately get rid of them if they are of equal or lower rank, I will be killed if I handle a superior in a higher rank impudently, though I believe it to be disgusting.

"Either way, the experiments will be suspended for a while."

"Oh? Why?"

The lump of bandages raises a curious voice.

Why doesn't this fellow even understand such a thing, I want to question.

There are many researchers who absolutely don't show any curiosity in things other than what interests them, however shouldn't you at least look over the reported facts which were transmitted from above?

It's not unlikely for your own body to perish if you make a single mistake.

Or does that oddball in front of my eyes plan to discard even that as inconsequential?

"You probably got a notification from the military authorities. As it looks like they will convert the established scale of the Forest Labyrinth transfer gate so that it can move a certain amount, we will lose the usage of the transfer gate until that operations is completed."

"There was such a notification?"

Having a doubtful voice, the bandaged plush toy's head is slanting slightly and trembling.

It appears that it inclined its head to the side, but because of its very short and stout build and the thickness of the bandages coiling around it, that doesn't seem to go smoothly.

Involuntarily I leak a sigh.

I want to finish the conversation with this strange object as soon as possible and quickly return to my research.

"There was. If you think that it's a lie, try inquiring to your own home about it as well."

"I haven't particularly said that it's a lie though nee~"

Throwing a disgusted look at the bundle of bandages, which began to flap its limbs again, I open my mouth to interrupt the chat any time now.

"If that's your only business, can I please have you go home soon?"

"Ah, yea. I will go home once I finish my business."

Once a small impact hit my chest, I, who wanted to ask whether there is still some kind of business beyond this, had my words blocked by something hot, which gradually rose from my throat.

While feeling a highly viscous liquid leaking and dripping after my mouth became partly open, I looked down at my own chest.

An unfamiliar unrefined metal pole is piercing into the chest of my body, I was familiar with.

What gradually rose from my throat was a clot of my own blood. As I realized that, I was assailed by the pain at last.

"Gofuu... the heck... what are you- planning..."

"It's troublesome nee~ Just when I have done something this flashy to that spot. Shall I cut you so that you won't even be able to talk anymore by the time I'm finished with the next spots?"

What stabbed my body was apparently an iron pole, which had a sharp pointed end shaped like a screw.

Its source is sticking out from a gap in the bundle of bandages.

I don't know the principle behind it, but that pole is pushed deeper into my body by piercing the screw part of the pole further in and rotating it.

If it's one of those, that's still far from a fatal wound.

As I formulate a way to escape while enduring the pain and discomfort of a foreign object piercing my body, several more poles are casually stabbed and then thoroughly screwed into my body.

In front of me, who screamed while unable to bear it, stood that bundle of bandages.

"For the time being I will have you die. The plan is for it to be as meaningless and gruesome death as possible so that it also serves as a warning to other people. Aah, since I will gouge out the parts that seem usable, best regards to those places nee~"

Once I try to scream "Please, help!", a pole was thrust into my throat.

It closes in on me, who struggles while vomiting blood and drool from my mouth which has lost the ability to speak, in order to slowly cover me.

"Well then, let's start with this eyeball first nee~?"



Fritz was at his wits' end in his room in the guild building.

A mountain of documents is piling up on the desk in front of him.

Most of them were reports.

The number of adventurers who passed away is 100, spread over 23 parties.

Almost all of the adventurers who accepted the request of the guild have died.

Merely one party of 3 people returned alive.

It was only the party, which had Renya Kunugi as its leader.

For Fritz those results are relatively trivial.

The participation of Renya's party was unexpected. He panicked at the time when he'd learned that, but since the result was them returning alive, it won't turn into a problem.

The annihilation of 23 parties didn't matter either.

There are countless adventurer candidates.

From noble greenhorns who can't succeed their family, at the top, to the sons of farmers who went broke, from below; there won't be any of inconvenience to replace them in any way since there's a diversity to such a degree.

In the first place, the veteran adventurers who are difficult to replace won't bite onto a request like this times.

"We have an ulterior motive for posting a request of that degree." – is what that request is screaming.

There was also the possibility of them making the error of joining in if that Shion was the leader, but although I thought they will easily avoid it if it's Renya, I wonder whether I have slightly misjudged him, Fritz ponders.

However, even this is no concern that will trouble Fritz greatly.

The problem, which is bringing him to his wits' end, were the three things currently in front of him.

One is the examination report sent by the investigative team.

The new species of monsters discovered in the forest this time apparently had a great variety of beast-like beings, had imitations of the arms of people or imitated dragons; in other words, they had no definite shape.

Either way, they apparently had a truly evil-natured ecology of eating, capturing and breeding with the bodies of people.

If one talks about why he knew about those, one reason was the autopsy report of the corpse of a monster the investigative team brought back, and the other reason were the several specimens they discovered in the middle of doing those things.

If you ask why there were specimens discovered in that state, it connects to the second problem.

The second problem is that the forest in question was almost completely destroyed.

According to the only one who saw the actual scene, Renya, immediately after something similar to a white thread quickly descended from the sky, it stabbed into the forest. He had a bad premonition, so he deployed a defense barrier as his field of vision was painted over in bright white light and he was surrounded by a snowscape.

He tried to ascertain the the authenticity of his words with magic, but since he was told "Pay the money to Renya", Fritz gave up on that.

In reality, no matter whether Renya's words are a lie or the truth, it's a fact that an extensive area of the forest has been frozen over.

Going by the results of the investigation, around 70-80% of the entire forest has been locked in ice. He was told that it likely won't return to its former state as many trees have been moved down.

According to the story of the magicians who accompanied the investigative team, it's a spell with the intention to destroy and would require several hundred magicians to try to perform the same deed, and even then it's uncertain whether they will be able to produce an effect which is barely similar, or not. Apparently that's the level of damage it has.

Of course, the report had a jurisdiction of \[\int \text{Because of those reasons, it's deemed to} \] be a sudden natural disaster \[\text{attached to it.} \]

If it's really a natural disaster, I will pray to god or something like that, Fritz judges.

Putting aside the damages to the adventurers, the sharp decline in resources, which could be taken from the forest and trees which ended up broken, will become a terribly hard blow for the residents of the city.

Since the country has to plan the countermeasures in regards to that, it's not like harm will directly approach Fritz, but it has been decided that his work will increase as the country should naturally request his cooperation with the formulated countermeasures.

The third problem was just now in front of Fritz' eyes.

"What's this about? You can explain it, right, Fritz?" (Rona)

The one, who asked that with a calm tone while having a smile tinged with a coldness at absolute zero and a black flame in the background, was Rona.

As usual her body, which has liveliness and impulsiveness, was covered in a priestess' garb, however she is putting strength into her right hand and grasping the one-handed mace tightly.

That hand is trembling slightly as she is putting too much power into it. A silent coercion, which can only be called stifling, was directed at Fritz.

"Certainly, this time's matter was due to the guild's own judgement. However, I believed you would evade it, if it was that man..." (Fritz)

"Is it fine to take that as your testament, Fritz?" (Rona)

"Eh? No, ummm... Eeeeh?" (Fritz)

"Then get ready over there. At least I will send you off with one blow so that you don't have to suffer." (Rona)

"Eh, that's a bit? ... Eeeeeeehh!?" (Fritz)

The staff members looked at each other's faces due to the male scream which resounded within the guild. They returned to their respective tasks as if they didn't hear anything.

CHAPTER 52.5

IT SEEMS TO BE INTERLUDE 7 (MTL)

traitorAIZEN: This is a machine translation. For reason I don't know, the translator didn't translate this chapter eventhough an illustration is included here.

Flew silky Frau's morning is early.

Flew woke up while the sun is not rising yet, raising her half up on the bed and looking around once wrapping around the drowsy eyes as a scrape.

That is the same as usual, a room with a lot of stormy lotus.

Frau sleeps there with a little sleeper tailored next to Renaya 's bed there.

Sion and Lorna got into trouble with various things such as whether it is necessary for sleep to sleep, how to sleep together in Rinya's room, etc. Frau smiled smilingly at the end "Noisy" He was silent.

When I shut it up, I was intensely intimidated through everything in the mansion through the magical power, so they were pale blue, and I thought that it was a mistake that I had a bitter expression on Rensya who gave me a shabby mood Frau remembrances a little while remembering that time.

When I gently laid his feet down from the bed and fell to the floor, the appearance of Frau was already in her usual maid outfit.

Since it is only an obstacle when going to bed, I am wearing a negligee that can not be seen through white, but from that point on, clothes change to maid clothes is a moment when I say that it is originally a specialty fairy related to clothing.

Frau took a little bit of impossibility to Rinya and found it on the wall, checking his appearance for a while and seeing that there is no problem, Frau gently approaches Renaya who is still sleeping.

As a result of trying several times several times, Frau got one conclusion about Rensa.

- That is, if Ryoya sleeps once, it will not wake up by being half-bored.
- To this, however, if you do not have a harm, you will get an annotation saying.
- It is very sensitive about harm.
- Just a few murderous intentions and intimidation will jump up even in the middle of the night.
- This was part of paying close attention to Frau sleeping in the same room.
- There is no such thing as hindering the Lord's sleep by one action of yourself, although you say that you are forced to take a room with yourself.
- However, only carefully there, it was Rensaya, which was very insensitive for the latter thing.
- Even when making a loud noise, it does not easily occur even if I shake it.
- Frau is listening whenever he is hugged in Zion every time he is hugged.
- That is, Frau thought that it was okay to hug.
- Therefore, as Frau gets up every morning, he dives on a sleeping bed where Rasaya sleeps.
- Frau thinks that it is a shock so much, but Renya never woke up with this behavior.



She turns the futon and slides her body into it, hugging the sleeping Rinya's arms and enjoying the moment of bliss for a while.

Over a period of about 10 minutes, when you fully enjoyed Frau crawls out of the bed of lotusa, I am sorry about correcting the disorder of maid clothes and leaving the room.

The first thing you need to do is to open the curtain of the window outside the private room in the mansion.

This is because the outside lights poured into the mansion, the things that were lurking in the corners of the corridor and in the shadows are the signs that the work today ends and the work returns to the cellar.

To them they are absolutely annihilated as they are found, so that they can not be found by residents of the mansion absolutely, so they are instructed to stay as if they are intended.

Originally, there is no ability to say so to the fairy.

Although I was not sure about Frau himself, probably it was that he had eaten the things that had become evil spirits, probably until Lotus Yadi arrived, may have led to his own modulation as a fairy I think vaguely.

I think, Frau thinks that if it can help Rasuya and Zion, it is not a big problem.

Next I will go to the kitchen and prepare breakfast.

Lunch and dinner are made by replacing Renya, but breakfast is made almost by Frau.

Morning breakfast is fried egg with bacon baked until it gets crunchy in fluffy bread.

The bread was homemade, and the way to learn it from Renya from the way to make yeast.

Those normally sold at the bakery in the town are hard and do not suit Rinya's taste.

Add a salad mixed with leafy vegetables and sliced Forest Octopus legs and paste it with a vinegar seasoned with a main dressing and a blonde round vegetable that Renaya calls potatoes If you make a thick soup made by mixing milk into a soup which

is constantly being made by stewing meat and vegetables and salt, then making breakfast a complete set.

All the recipes were taught from Renaya.

Zion also sometimes tries to cook recipe, but as for cooking method only to bake or boil, there are only two kinds of seasoning like salt or sweetness and it is not very kind, so you can not like flower.

If I can have breakfast, I will be waiting for work to raise inhabitants of the mansion.

It is easy to raise Lotus.

If you do light intimidation, you jump up tremendously.

"Hey..... Every morning this is quite painful, but..."

"I am sorry, but this is the easiest and sure way to wake up."

If I lower my head and one head, Ryoya also mourns while scratching his head.

When Rrowa tells you that breakfast is done, Frau opens the door of the room of Zion, while making small ice in her hand.

Zion who is sleeping on the bed is indeed an obstacle while sleeping, as usual it is unraveling the hair that is tied at a high head position, and the color hair of a crow of wet crow at the bed is on the bed It is spilling out.

Zion can not be said to be a good raise.

Frau peels off the covered futon a little and lowers it to the vicinity of the chest of Zion and slides her ice just right into the crotch of the night wear and then leaves the room of Zion without seeing the result.

Awesome screams will rise behind the scenes, but ignore it as it is every morning.

Although the end is the room of Lorna, Frau himself is somewhat weak consciousness.

When opening the door and entering inside, a sensuous beautiful woman of Nagrigee of Musuke Sukusake is nothing to wear on futon and lying on unprotected on top of

the bed.

Basically, inside the mansion, since the temperature adjustment by magic has been done, even if you sleep without using futon you will not be shivering in the cold.

It's Frau's job to control its temperature, but I only want to make this room only cold.

Rona on the couch is not fat, but boasts a proportion that consciously considers the word "meat" strangely.

I think it is a part of the body that is supposed to be terrible, but Frau can not help vomiting a curse called "Moshiro" each time he sees it.

Once you seriously cursed, things that are in the cellar have come out seriously, so Frau has been careful not to think seriously since, but you can not make it completely unexpected.

"Ronna, my morning!"

Lorna's sleep rising is much better than the other two people.

Because it wakes up just by putting out a voice, it was easy to say as a fraud.

"Wha..... is......"

Rona waking up while leaking something strangely glossy sigh.

Flew smiles smiling without spitting out on the table while spitting out cursing like moushiro, shibori.

"Lonna, my morning,"

"..... Good morning, Frau-chan... I feel cold somewhat, did you lower the temperature?"

"It's as usual, I do not have Lona's older sister"

Mago Shizuku? And get caught from the items in the basement come back, but I want to do it, but if you do it, Frau will stop you because it is slashed by lotus.

"I have breakfast in the morning."

"Thank you, I will go right away."

There is something that runs to the spine, but whatever you are tilting your neck, leave it as it is, Frau starts on the next job.

In the bathroom, it is a task to wash the residents' wash items.

However, for Frau dealing with magic of <Operation>, this is a work which can be done in one hand and it can finish it fully automatically under unconsciousness.

We cleaned up the breakfast after we finished eating from the way and said that all laundry is hanging on a clothes stand tailored to the garden by the time the tableware is returned to the shelf.

In addition the bedding which was pulled from the bed in each room's room is also dried properly.

During the day, Lotus Yadi is rarely at home.

It is because it is receiving groundbreaking material collection requested by the guild and requests of the weak demobilization to be subdued, but the time zone without residents is the main purpose of Frau.

First of all, care of the garden.

Lotus Yamato is unknown, but grass and trees growing in the garden seem to be ordinary things anywhere, actually receiving supply of magical power from Frau, nourishing what can not be said with too loud voice And it has become a demon in the middle.

Drying the grass of a long leaf that is chewing while saying that Frau has overdue leaves, I'm sorry and polishing it carefully, it is tough and can get thin fibers.

If this is mixed with other fibers to spin the yarn, the strength will be many times, but what is the reason does not know Frau.

In addition, because it grows on the entire garden, I think that it is a crowd, and there is one connected by rhizomes, the root at the tip of the stem is lurking poisonous.

The jet-black spider silently weaving the leaves on that leaf is the spider who

originally lived in the garden became a demon.

Although it is a thumb size in size, it is a bit bigger than an ordinary spider, so Frau is tightly inscribed so that it will not come out when Zion and Rona are.

The thread spun by this spider is thin, supple and tough with the same jet color as the color of the body.

Frau knows that this spider mainly feeds small birds and small animals, where it is not visible to the inhabitants of the house.

Furthermore, when ten animals gather and throw up a thread, people are captured occasionally.

Since a spider injects the dissolving liquid into the body of the prey, it melts the contents and exhausts it, so when you notice, only bone and skin are left.

It is unavoidable, it is Frau which fills in the garden after it is dried and crushed into powder.

Created with this spider thread and previous grass fiber, Rinya wears clothes that she is wearing now.

Frau thinks that collection and treatment of fibers are also very difficult, so we do not have a prospect of mass production, but Frau wishes to make up to the part of Zion or Rona either.

In addition, although there are several trees and plants planted in the garden, flowing straw fowls do not remember saying what kind of demons are.

Firstly, because it is sometimes changed to a completely different demon in the space where I am a bit off my eyes, it is too bought to investigate.

Remember only the things you often use, others think about it only as much as you can check each time.

Once the grooming is done, it will be a rest.

Frau, which does not need to eat rice, does not need to make rice unless Lotus Yaya is there, sitting on the bed of Renya's favorite, sitting off.

Even though the garden of this house is not such a large garden, why is the man lying well.

They are hidden deep inside the deep bushes, so that they do not stick to the eyes of Lotus Yado, but they are almost out of motion, are out of control, or are being sleeping due to some poison or the like.

Leaving it, the roots of the trees dragged into the earth properly, but occasionally I needed to throw living things into the basement.

The things lurking in the basement love the warmth of the living.

The poignant victims thrown in are destined to be thrown into the things thoroughly hidden in the cellar until their bodies are cold.

Separately, there is no problem without it, but it will be very pleasing if there is one.

Frau was not interested at all as to whom so many people overturned this house so many times, but I thought that I should thank for that act.

"I should thank you once."

The problem was to say there is no way to find out who it is.

If you understand, Frau silently sacrifices the afternoon's ingredient preparation work silently.

Choice of ingredients is the preparation of various soups to be the basis of taste, the preparation of yeast to make bread, making paste of vegetables, preparation of various dressings, etc.

These cooking methods were also learned from roughly Renya.

While doing these, take in the laundry with the magic of <operation>.

Fold the loaded laundry properly, and bedding sets the bed so that wrinkles do not lie on the bed.

After that I will prepare dinner and prepare for a bath.

Today 's dinner was spicy salted beef and cheese cooked chicken and boiled egg and leafy vegetable salad.

Fruit platter assorted with cheap but with wine, it will be completed.

After cleaning up the dinner, the work of the day is almost complete.

Although cleaning of the bath after use and preparation of breakfast of tomorrow are somewhat left, it is good to finish it with the time to sleep, not a hasty story.

Lorna goes to bed at first for some reason in the house.

Next is Zion, the last is Renaya.

Liaoya last sleeps is a frau that seems to have some reason, but I have never asked.

It seems to be a very crapball reason, but it is probably a very important reason for the principal.

Three people crawled into the bed and when they start to sleep, Frau also enters the bed at last.

With a signal that Frau enters the bed, countless shadows crawl out of the basement without sound.

In the next morning, and until Frau opens the curtains, they silently guard against the inside of the mansion.

What kind of menu would you like for breakfast tomorrow?

While thinking about such a thing, Frau closes his eyes.

Thus the day of Frau closes the curtain.

CHAPTER 53

IT SEEMS TO BE A TRIP TO THE COUNTRY OF ELVES

"I want to go to the country of elves." (Renya)

Everyone present at that place opened their eyes widely due to Renya's far too sudden statement. One day all members of the party had gathered in the parlour at afternoon and were in the middle of enjoying the tea brewed by Frau.

The tea prepared by Frau is a fairly high-class black tea.

Generally, the tea that appears on the market is something which can be called a pitchblack tea. Its taste and flavour are considerably bad.

Above that, there are yellow tea, green tea of fairly average quality and the top quality products which are the black teas.

From Renya's point of view the green tea tastes delicious enough, but as Frau has a policy of using the best thing available, she is obstinately continuing to use black tea.

"I want to repay the debts if there's money though, you know", Renya complained, however Frau carelessly stated that she has already begun to repay those little-by-little.

As she was somehow getting quite skilful at the production of the magic gems that she is continuing to create with the mana supply provided by Renya, it has apparently reached a situation of her being able to continuously earn a reasonable income.

Renya wondered whether it was really alright due to the strange situation of her returning the debt he made to buy the house, but according to Frau's words that's fine because Renya is providing his mana as resource which is then used to earn the money and thus it also feels like the debt is being repaid with the money Renya has earned.

Returning to the topic; Shion was about to spew out the black tea which she held in her mouth due to Renya's abrupt and unrestrained statement, but somehow enduring it, she looks at Renya after putting the cup back on the table.

"Still, that's quite sudden, no?" (Shion)

"Certainly, if you say it's sudden, that might be the case, but... since we have become able to go there at great pains, don't you want to go there once? I've never seen an elf." (Renya)

"I believe they aren't interesting living creatures for sightseeing though..." (Rona)

Rona says while she put her cup between her hands.

"Are they this boring?" (Renya)

"Yes. First, they have high pride." (Rona)

Returning the cup to the table, Rona begins to state her arguments as she hits upon them while counting with her fingers.

"Their faces are beautiful, but it's an androgynous type of beauty that is disconnected from reality. There's almost no distinction between men and women in regards to their bodies. In other words, the men seem to be tiny and the women are all flat as a board." (Rona) (*T/N*: in the last sentence, Rona means to say that the men got small dicks and not that they are small in height)

"Wha-, say what!?" (Renya)

Renya retorted, flustered, but Rona answered him nonchalantly,

"It's clear what it's about, though I can't really tell since it's not like I've seen the real thing. There are many elves with carefree characters as result of having an excess of usable time due to their longevity. It's a strict race that will hold a grudge for several years if they get angry once, since they are hard to please. They don't show much interest in things like handicraft because they prefer nature's items. They build their buildings by using things like trees in their natural state." (Rona)

"I have a feeling that those points are blended too much by your own personal opinion, but... you have extensive knowledge, Rona." (Renya)

"Isn't it fine to praise me a bit more?" (Rona)

A somewhat gloomy Shion is glaring at Rona who's smiling cheerfully.

If it's around this much, I know that as well, seems to be what she definitely wants to say.

"But still, why do you want to go to the elven country so abruptly?"

"Since the uproar from the other day, the guild's monitoring has become annoying..." (Renya)

After the matter of more than 20 parties getting annihilated in the forest close to the city, the number of looks from the guild towards himself had strangely increased, Renya felt.

Until then they had been sporadically loitering around outside the grounds of the house. He noticed the figures of people like that, but now he felt that their frequency has oddly gone up.

It's a relief that they aren't insolent people who would go as far as entering the house though, thinking that Renya realizes that Frau is fixedly staring his way for some reason.

"What's wrong?" (Renya)

"Ah, it's nothing ~no. Rather than that, will Frau be staying at home if you end up going to the elven country ~nano?" (Frau)

Renya hesitates as she has asked looking slightly sad.

It's possible for her to go out if she continues to stick to me, but there's the question of whether Frau can pass through the transfer gate like that or not.

In Az's explanation, it was mentioned that a single person can barely be sent through the gate which has been installed at the school.

If Frau counts as a person, she won't be able to pass through the gate together with Renya.

"If you can go through the transfer gate, it will be okay to take you along as well." (Renya)

'There's no other choice but to try asking Az about that, huh?' Renya judged.

"If Renya goes, we'll come along as well, but we'll have to pay the transfer fee ourselves, I guess?" (Shion)

Shion says.

"If I'm not mistaken", Renya nodded, but he had prepared a reply to deal with that.

"If you can use the magic gems created by Frau, I have a hunch that it will be fairly cheap. Moreover, Az told me that he has discussed a discount for the usage fee." (Renya)

"Now that you mention it, that's right, but... will it be a pleasure trip?" (Rona)

Rona asked in a weird way.

The act of going on a short-term vacation that requires quite a large amount of funds, isn't very popular in this world.

At the most it's something occasionally done by nobles and big merchants.

Merchants like peddlers who wander all over from one place to the other for the sake of doing business are different, but most of the common citizens die in the city they were born in and grew up.

By the way, adventurers aren't included in the classification of common citizens.

"A pleasure trip is no good?" (Renya)

"No, I think it's alright once in awhile." (Rona)

Rona had an expression on her face of not quite being satisfied, however even Renya doesn't want to travel for nothing but work year in, year out.

Occasionally I want to go and have a relaxing time at a spa, he has these moods at times as well.

Though I don't know whether the elven country has a spa or not.

"If it's decided, I will request the utilization of the transfer gate from Az for starters and at the same time ask him about the specifications of the leap, huh?" (Renya)

"Shion and I will pack our stuff. Let's bear arms just in case, too." (Rona)

"Eh? You're going to take weapons with you on a pleasure trip?" (Shion)

Renya and Rona dropped their fists onto the head of Shion who spouted such a careless line on top of having a puzzled expression on her face.



"For the moment the maximum permissible weight is 150 kg. If it's below that, it will even be possible to transport two different people together. Although I told you that the usage fee is cheap, you have to pay 1 silver coin per person for nothing but renting the facility if you use your own magic gems. Because there's an adjustment of the destination gate, and as it's necessary to contact humans who have gone there previously if the destination is the elven country, the departure will be in 2 days. Do you have any other questions?" (Az)

Visiting Az, Renya got this answer just now when he told Az that he wants to use the transfer gate.

Placing his elbow on top of the business desk in the room provided for his teacher job, Az replied while putting his fingers together.

Renya deeply groans due to the truly simple and easy-to-understand answer that makes him want to interrogate Az as to whether he possesses clairvoyance or not.

"What's wrong?" (Az)

"Why do you believe that we will use our own magic gems?" (Renya)

"There..." (Az)

He points at Frau, who followed Renya while entrusting the packing to Rona and Shion.

"Was it Frau? The fairy has been distributing quite a number of magic gems on the market. At present it's not at the level of a price collapse, but even the school has begun to pay attention to it. 'Just how and from where the heck do the gems come from?' or such." (Az)

"Tsk... what a bother ~no." (Frau)

"Frau... san?" (Renya)

"It's nothing \sim no. It will be alright since I will discuss it with my regular merchant-san in this area \sim no." (Frau)

Feeling like he heard a somewhat a terribly dark murmur there, Renya stared at Frau, but Frau looked back at him with a sweet smile.

She is considerably bold in this aspect as Rona and Shion would have likely averted their gaze, if it were them, Renya admires her.

Is it for the sake of starting a business in the store space installed in the house? Frau has connections to several merchants who were introduced to her by Rona and Az.

It seems that she is distributing the magic gems to the market through those pipes as well, but Renya isn't aware of the details either.

"If it's done on a large scale, I will be zeroed in on from many sides ~no. I'm distributing them at a level that just barely won't stimulate anyone. ... The school's movements were somewhat unexpectedly fast ~no..." (Frau)

"It's not a particular problem if they put you under suspicion because you haven't done anything, right?" (Az)

Az tells Frau who is grinding her teeth tensely something harmless.

"I'm being suspected although I haven't done anything wrong \sim no. However, it's too early to spill that I'm the big source \sim no." (Frau)

"Well, the school has the ability to gather intelligence in its own ways." (Az)

Since it's a school that takes care of noble children, they gather information from their surroundings greedily while paying attention to be discreet about it.

There are also many cases where it wouldn't be finished without learning various things given that the ones taking care of them are people.

Frau's case was apparently caught in a part of the information gathering net that the school is always spreading out.

"That part doesn't matter to me at all, but..." (Renya)

Renya shyly interjects.

Somehow, he's gotten an impression as if Frau and Az ended up being people from a distant world.

Stuff like intelligence gathering or information wars were talks of a world which he won't be able to understand at all, from Renya's point of view.

"Around how many magic gems are necessary?" (Renya)

"It's around the amount of 1 gold coin's worth to start it up once. It's possible to leap in 2 sets with one activation." (Az)

"As I will be with Frau, Shion, Rona... and the luggage around 2 times? In total it will be 5 times, thus 3 sets, huh? Will you be able to prepare the magic gems, Frau?" (Renya)

If the transfer limit is 150 kg, it will certainly work with only just one adult in full equipment. If it's a second person, they will likely go beyond the limit, however there doesn't seem to be a problem to leap together if it's Frau and Renya as the numerical value can be below the limit.

However, if it's the amount of magic gems with a worth of 3 gold coins, it will be quite a bit, if you compare it with the magic cores of the goblins which Renya collected at the pioneers' village before.

Renya worried whether she would be able to prepare this many, however Frau nodded easily.

"That's a piece of cake. I can even prepare those right away ~no." (Frau)

"That's amazing, oi" (Az)

"All of it is thanks to master ~nano." (Frau)

The mana supply by Renya can be kept up as long as nothing big happens.

Frau compressed and stored it away, but of course, no matter how much she

compressed the mana there was an upper limit in the storable amount.

After obtaining the ability to crystallize the mana, the worry of an overflow occurring apparently vanished, however Renya's maximum level of mana is continuing to increase day by day. Naturally that results in the amount of mana supplied to Frau becoming more in proportion.

"I wonder how much it would be if we measured my mana now?" (Renya)

Being told that he has a hopelessly scarce amount of mana after getting it measured precisely once, he was called a monster at the time when he visited Khalil's shop a second time.

It's not like it was measured accurately, but as I can convert it into considerably large-scale spells and invoke several spells at the same time for a long period, hasn't it increased quite a bit? Renya is wondering.

"Isn't it at a level of blowing away the city once you cause an explosion alongside a flash of that ball which is used to examine mana capacity?" (Az)

"No, no matter how much I have, that is..." (Renya)

Renya tried to laugh it off thinking that Az probably took the joke too far, however seeing Az's serious expression, he stops his words.

After pondering for a little while, Renya asked Az,

"Are you possibly saying that seriously?" (Renya)

"Correct, I'm seriously serious, too." (Az)

With that immediate reply and him having nodded gravely, Renya laughs as if being troubled.

"So far as it goes, I'm a human though?" (Renya)

"I know. But, then tell me the reason for your maximum amount of mana increasing this much in such short time." (Az)

"In the first place, I don't know anyone who acquired an increase such as this", Az

continues.

How to answer that? Renya ponders for a brief period.

"One, it's the fruits of great effort." (Renya)

"If it can become like that with only effort, just how many training sessions did I skip?" (Az)

Az voiced out in utter amazement, but he switched his thinking right away.

"Oh well, I don't really care about that anyway. It's just you having parts you are talented in." (Az)

"Master is amazing." (Frau)

Frau throws out her chest with an "Ahem" as if it is about her.

Renya somehow shows an embarrassed laughter. Az is displaying a smile as if he is watching something pleasant.

"That's right. Frau's master is an amazing person." (Az)

"S-t-o-p it. Are you making fun of me through excessive praise or what are you planning?" (Renya)

"No, not at all. I'm truly respecting you? Renya-sensei." (Az)

"You, are you holding a grudge over getting scolded by Liaris-sensei the other day...?" (Renya)

Due to Renya glaring at him with half-opened eyes, Az showed a mentally slow look all of a sudden while saying, "Just what are you talking about, I wonder?"

CHAPTER 54

IT SEEMS TO BE A MEETING WITH AN ELF

"You will be in the elven country once you leave the long tunnel on the other side of the transfer gate."

"Master, what's that ~nano?" (Frau)

Frau, who is walking while holding Renya's hand, looks up at him with a face full of curiosity.

Certainly it's not like I can answer her frankly "It looks like a place that was stolen from a certain author's work in the world I was before". After Renya was pondering about it for a short while,

"It's somehow an explanation for our current situation, I guess?" (Renya)

is his passable answer.

Exactly two days after requesting the usage of the transfer gate from Az, he received a message that the transfer gate was ready.

Stuffing the already gathered baggage into Renya's inventory, the group of four who came to the school mostly empty-handed is led to the room with the transfer gate by Az.

Once they finish storing all the baggage in the inventory, they noticed at the last moment that they could save the share of one transfer set.

As they are able save that set, they take the effort to do just that.

The room was a truly tasteless place which only has the gate, with a height at a level of one adult being able to normally pass through it, embedded into the wall.

Once Az casually inserted magic gems into the empty holes located right next to the gate, the gate which was embedded in the wall opened and one could see a gaping, pitch black space spreading on the the other side.

"Well then, see you later." (Az)

Due to Az pointing at that jet-black space with a truly casual attitude, Renya spontaneously retorts,

"No, no, wait a moment. What's this? Isn't it usually scary to pass through this?" (Renya)

"What's scary about it? Isn't it just a hole?" (Az)

"That you can't see anything!? Is it alright to enter this?" (Renya)

"If you couldn't enter it safely, it wouldn't function as gate, now would it?" (Az)

It was as if Az was asking "What is that guy talking about?", but because he has to step into absolute darkness where he can't see anything at all, Renya feels a small amount of fear, though he considered it to be something instinctive.

If this was something like the darkness of the night, Renya could grasp the situation within the darkness to a certain degree in some way, however the jet-black darkness on the other side of the gate doesn't trigger a single of Renya's senses.

"Master." (Frau)

Frau lightly tugs Renya's sleeve.

"Because Frau will enter first, it will be fine for master to follow afterwards by holding hands \sim no." (Frau)

"See, there you go, Renya. Even though she has such tiny body, she is calm, you on the other hand..." (Az))

"If you want, I can go first?" (Rona)

Frau volunteers to guide him through the path ahead.

Az talks while curving the edges of his mouth, looking as if it's really funny.

Rona suggests she go in first as she is just unable to watch Renya not wanting to enter readily.

Being bothered by getting gradually driven to the wall, Renya takes one deep breath.

"No, I will go." (Renya)

"Master, I will go through it together with you ~no." (Frau)

Although Renya says that and starts to walk, Frau who is probably still worried grasps Renya's hand.

And at last Renya expressed his will to start at the spot where one went through the transfer gate.

By the way, there's nothing like a long tunnel.

Right after Renya passes through the gate, his view changes from jet-black darkness into that of some room made out of wood.

A gate was installed in the wall, in the same way, as in the room he entered over there. This side was also a very tasteless room which only has holes right next to the gate to insert magic gems.

A single elf stands in front of the gate.

The elf has golden hair which looks as if it's reaching the their waist and almond eyes with bright green pupils.

The long thin ears are emphasizing that it's truly an elf.

The slender, well-featured look can certainly be called beautiful and it's an appearance that won't trigger any kind of discomfort either.

Moreover, the elf wears a sky-blue dyed leather breastplate, a dark green tunic and skirt, white knee socks and light brown boots. It was truly an appearance befitting them, if judged by people who have seen them, but Renya has no knowledge in that regard.

He has ended up genuinely admiring them with a So this is an elf.

"An elf for welcoming ~nano?" (Frau)

Once Frau who was led by Renya's hand called out, the elf bent at the waist albeit only to a slight degree.

"I'm called Kurowaal $(T/N: >> Kurowa\sim ru <<)$ and am affiliated with the adventurer training school. I have been asked to serve as your guide over here." (Kurowaal)

"Guide?" (Renya)

I don't really remember having asked for a guide though, Renya thinks.

Rona and after her, Shion, make an appearance from within the gate behind him.

"Yes. That's because it will be troublesome if humans walk around all over of their own accord." (Kurowaal)

"So we will only follow behind you?" (Renya)

"If you are able to accept it like that, this will finish without you causing an unnecessary disturbance?" (Kurowaal)



The elf who called themselves Kurowaal declared so without even matching their gaze with Renya.

Due to Kurowaal's attitude which can be interpreted as being superficially polite but rude in intent, Renya furrows his eyebrows, Frau's expression gradually turns sullen, Shion remains having a blank expression as she doesn't understand the situation and Rona is already about to pick a fight.

"Although you don't even have any significant buildings, what's up with your way of talking like us not wandering around of our own accord? It's mostly within the forest and the city is unchanging anyway, right?" (Rona)

"... I feel like just now some beast which has accumulated a pointless amount of fat spoke in the language of men, but is it a pet or something else?" (Kurowaal)



Feeling as if the air within the room had frozen over, Renya immediately evacuates from the direct line between Rona and Kurowaal.

"To call something like this damn troublesome manner of speaking the language of men, what kind of joke is that." (Rona)

"Even while saying it's troublesome, I will give you my praise for being able to use it properly. You are quite the well-educated beast. Are you a new species?" (Kurowaal)

"Heey... Renya...?" (Shion)

Since his sleeve was still grasped by Frau, Shion who pulled Renya's shoulder close to her whispers into Renya's ear.

"What is it, Shion? For now, read the mood. Currently it's not the time to have a pointless chat." (Renya)

"No, well... I somehow get that. But, what are those two talking about?" (Shion)

"What are they talking about, you ask..." (Renya)

"It's probably just what you hear", Renya started to answer, but he notices even Frau who is holding onto his sleeve is having an expression of questioning it.

Why are both of them... such a thought started to surface in Renya's mind, however he arrived at a single deduction right away.

"Are those two possibly talking in the elven language?" (Renya)

"I don't know whether it's the elven language or not, but I don't understand what Rona is saying. Do you understand it, Renya?" (Shion)

Even the one asked, Renya himself, doesn't comprehend the reason why he is able to understand the language of elves.

As a result of thinking it through for a while, he reaches the conclusion: \[\int Otherworld \] Language \[\] is one of the skills I received from the little girl, isn't that likely the reason why I'm able to understand even the elven language?

This can be regarded as handy and might also be extremely inconvenient, Renya judges.

At any rate, Renya himself understands both the language of humans and elves, although he has no memory of the language having been switched either.

And very likely this has the same feature even while talking.

In other words, Renya's language is one that can be understood by any race in this world as well. This possibility exists.

If I don't use this well, it's easy to predict that I will end up unable to perform talks at a desired level.

As Renya, who is greatly perplexed as he was given a skill with quite the bad usability takes a sidelong glance, Rona's and Kurowaal's conversation was getting more and more heated up as time passed.

"I heard that the human race would visit, but I wasn't told about the visit of a fat beast." (Kurowaal)

"A thin elf where you can't tell whether it's a man or woman can't even tell the difference between beast and human?" (Rona)

"Oh my! Even the eyes of the embodiment of fat are poor. It's pitiful that the level of its intelligence hinders its ability to tell apart men and women." (Kurowaal)

"Don't you think it's laughable for an elf who doesn't mature into an adult unless 200 years have passed to talk about the quality of the human races' intelligence?" (Rona)

"Ah, both of you, I believe being on good terms is a nice thing, but..." (Renya)

Renya cut into their conversation as they will apparently quarrel with each other forever, if they are left alone, however being glared at with gazes full of killing intent by both of them, he is at a loss for his next words.

"Ummm. If I remember correctly, you were called Renya-san, right? I approve of you as human race, but even if you tell me to be on good terms with this monster of fat, I'm sorry. Please don't be disappointed because I've been asked by Az-san over there who is one of the better side, considering he is a human." (Kurowaal)

"Renya-san. Did you go crazy to ask me something like being on good terms with this skin-and-bones elf whose shape and body looks like a thin toothpick?" (Rona)

"For the time being, Rona, come over here for a moment." (Renya)

Getting between the two who are once again glaring at each other, Renya grabs Rona's shoulder and pulls her away.

Turning their backs on Kurowaal who fixedly glares in their direction, Renya asks Rona in a whisper,

"Tell me, why are you so completely belligerent?" (Renya)

"... Elves are as you can see yourself, they are a race with a slender body build typical for their species..." (Rona)

Being somewhat embarrassed, Rona answers Renya's question in a subdued whispering voice.

"In line with this, nice people with proportions befitting the human race are called exceedingly fat by their own standards. Or they will assess someone to have gotten too fat..." (Rona)

"So?" (Renya)

"This isn't the first time I came to the country of elves. Previously I came only for a bit as I happened to have a job here, but..." (Rona)

Rona who served as a knight at that time came to the elven country as an important person of the Triden Principiality, but she was exposed to many onlookers as it seems that female knights are unusual for elves, Rona says.

And Rona, who was treated as having gained too much weight, or rather as chubby if they are blunt about it going by the standards of elves, was viewed as a subject of ridicule by saying "What's with that fat woman?"

Of course, because Rona came to lead negotiations between the two countries, she wasn't laughed at all of a sudden when they met face-to-face, but with them doing things like deliberately whispering close to her so that she could hear it, that resulted in her hating elves thoroughly, Rona explained.

"Being able to speak the language of elves is also because of that?" (Renya)

"Honestly, I don't want to use the language though. Since the pride of elves is pointlessly high, they won't use the common language of the continent." (Rona)

The most beautiful and superior language in the world is theirs, is what the majority of elves truly believe, Rona frowned.

"From my point of view, I can't really think of it being an efficient language if there are many words meaning the same thing or if there are many pointlessly long language modifiers." (Rona)

"Although that part doesn't matter to me, I got your point, Rona." (Renya)

After tapping Rona's shoulder and telling her to go to Shion's and Frau's location, Renya faces Kurowaal next.

Even more than Kurowaal's slim and elegant body, she doesn't appear to be anything but a middle school student from Renya's point of view given that her height is low.

Even so, she is emitting an air of having experienced many years and months, huh? The feeling her body gives off isn't the same as its appearance, he grasps immediately.

"I'm sorry for my companion having caused you trouble." (Renya)

First he apologizes.

The saying "It's beneficial to divide by corners because of hate" isn't a good position to take in a first meeting.

"No, I became emotional as well. I'm very sorry." (Kurowaal)

Unexpectedly Kurowaal bowed towards Renya. He also bowed after having waited for her to lift her face.

Since he heard that they have a high pride, Renya who anticipated she would say something sarcastic faces Kurowaal with a surprised expression.

"Unexpected, is what your face is telling me. That's not unnatural either though." (Kurowaal)

"Aah, sorry. I was surprised because I heard that elves are very prideful. ... Is there

some reason?" (Renya)

Kurowaal intently stared at Renya who asked out of interest, however after a while she beckons Renya with a *fwip fwip* and takes Renya along to a corner of the room away from Rona's group.

"What I'm about to tell you is a secret. Do you understand?" (Kurowaal)

"... Got it. I swear that I won't reveal it to anyone else." (Renya)

Once Renya has made that vow, Kurowaal brings her face close to Renya's ear and whispers,

"As a matter of fact... in the recent years there has been something like a reform of aesthetic sense even in the elven country." (Kurowaal)

"Mmh?" (Renya)

"Even women who've got plenty of flesh like your companions are fairly beautiful in their own way... or is their sexual prowess simply surpassing those of normal elves? Isn't that superiority? It's such notions..." (Kurowaal)

"Mmmh?" (Renya)

Renya frowned as he feels that the conversation has taken a somewhat weird turn.

"In other words, what's this about?" (Renya)

"... If I'm honest, I think that we are jealous." (Kurowaal)

Kurowaal announced that while the area around her cheeks blushed slightly with her having sulky face. Renya, unable to realize what might be good as an answer, could do nothing more but stare back at the face of the elf.

CHAPTER 55

IT SEEMS WE'RE BEING GUIDED AROUND BY AN ELF

The elven cities are generally built within forests.

Even the city Renya's group visited after leaving the transfer gate was no exception to that as it was within a forest.

Because the elves called themselves "the people of the forest", they love trees more than sand and rocks. They are a race that desires to live close to trees.

Thus, the buildings in elven cities naturally make use of trees, and there are many things which use them as support. In Renya's opinion, there are many buildings where he doesn't comprehend how the heck the buildings themselves are built with such a haphazard design.

The room where they emerged after coming out of the transfer gate was one of the rooms of the adventurer training school, which is located in the elven city Grankain (T/N: >> Gurankain <<).

Kurowaal, who called herself their guide, is one of the students of the school there.

"Once again, why is it a student?" (Renya)

Renya believed that a guide was unnecessary, but even if they would prepare a guide for argument's sake, it should be someone assigned from the teacher's side since it is a school. It was slightly difficult for him to imagine a student being nominated for that role.

Kurowaal, who acts as guide and departs first on the path towards outside the school from the room with the transfer gate, readily replies while looking over her shoulder,

"Is that not because I am excellent?" (Kurowaal)

Kurowaal answered while lightly throwing her chest out in pride, but even if something that's not there is pushed out, it's not like the fact that there's nothing will change.

"I have a feeling that they are making a mistake in their usage of excellent personnel though?" (Renya)

"It shan't work well with someone incompetent if you consider it to be the duty of preventing trouble." (Kurowaal)

Renya said so in order to provoke her a little bit, but he understands that it didn't have any effect since she makes her statement coldly.

Come to think of it, Renya should have lived for more than 94 years all together in his previous life, however the elf in front of him might have easily spent more time than him being alive.

If looked at it that way, it will become Renya's first encounter with a being that's older than him since coming to this world.

"Do elves possess longevity?" (Renya)

"I feel that the conversation took a far too sudden turn, but that is correct." (Kurowaal)

"How old are you, Kurowaal? I can't grasp it by your appearance at all." (Renya)

"I will turn 70 this year." (Kurowaal)

"... 70?" (Renya)

No way, she is younger.

Renya, who previously heard Rona saying that elves become adults at around 200 years of age, wonders whether it's fine if he considers the age of elves to be about 10 times that of humans. Even if Kurowaal's age doesn't amount to 200 years by her appearance, isn't she at least $140 \sim 150$ years old? Renya anticipated, but it seems that his guess has been proven wrong.

Having pondered about it this far, Renya once again looks at the back of Kurowaal who is going in front of him.

Just a moment ago I thought my idea of elves having an age being 10 times that of humans is a mistake, but maybe that idea is correct. Isn't it also possible that the elf in front of me has an age of around 7 years going by human terms? He considered.

"Something wrong?" (Kurowaal)

Did she notice the stare of Renya? Kurowaal asks while looking at Renya over her shoulder.

Will she be alright walking without looking in front of herself? Renya got slightly worried.

"Don't worry. I won't bump against the wall even if I don't look ahead." (Kurowaal)

"That's also quite efficient... The age I heard just now; how much is it amongst elves?" (Renya)

Kurowaal shows an expression of "I wonder what you are talking about?" at Renya who asked.

"Given that master is a Lost, his information about this world here is slightly poor ~no." (Frau)

Frau, who walked next to Renya while grasping his hand, explains his circumstances to Kurowaal.

Renya thought that it would be only himself who has assistance from his skill, and Rona who can use the elven language within his party, but Frau was also very fluent in talking elvish.

Now that it has come to this, only Shion can't join their chat. Shion has abandoned conversing with the elf while donning an expression of having partly given up.

"Why can Frau fluently speak in the elven language?" Due to that question Frau replied, "It's because elves and fairies are similar existences."

Going by Frau's words, elves seem to be beings similar to half fairies.

"Lost... you say? That's also quite rare." (Kurowaal)

"I would appreciate it if you stop treating me like some rare animal." (Renya)

Renya responded to Kurowaal, who seemed to be slightly astonished, with a dejected expression.

"I can understand it, if you are a Lost. If you were a regular member of the human race, I would draw the conclusion that you are an imbecile without any knowledge." (Kurowaal)

Each and every word is filled with spite.

Renya ends up thinking, she hates the human race very much.

"Elves take about 40 years after their birth for their outward appearance to become that of an adult. Those 40 years are called the growth period. The period of about 160 years until they reach about 200 years is called adolescence. Only after passing this age an elf is regarded as adult." (Kurowaal)

"Hee, that means you are in the middle of adolescence, right, Kurowaal?" (Renya)

"Yes, indeed. We gather knowledge and experience in this period of adolescence. I will be treated as a $14\sim15$ year old, going by the age of humans. By the way, although there are some disparities in the life spans, I will live for around 1000 years." (Kurowaal)

"It's a famous fact that the outer appearance of elves mostly doesn't change either." (Rona)

Rona, who walked behind Renya, interjects.

From Renya's point of view, is Rona talking in the human language or is she using the elven language? I can't make a distinction, but going by the fact that Kurowaal doesn't show any reaction, she seems to be talking in the human language.

In this regard, although Renya tried to experiment by asking Rona, who understands the human language as well as the elven language, about various things, it seems that his words will become audible as elvish if he thinks about talking in the elven language and as human tongue if he thinks about talking in the human language.

Since it's also similar in cases where I write characters, it's an extremely user-friendly skill, Renya admires.

"Elves who have matured into adults will keep their outward appearance until their death. Given that they have a young outer appearance for a very long time, on top of elders not existing, they were believed to be an immortal race in the days of old." (Rona)

"Actually, they do grow old properly. It's only that even after childhood, their appearance won't become wrinkled.. However they still age normally", Rona says.

"Renya... I don't comprehend what that fat meat is talking about. I can't praise you for holding a secret talk amongst fellow humans." (Kurowaal)

"If it's that frustrating, how about learning to understand the words of humans?" (Rona)

Kurowaal changes her expression a bit due to the provocation of Rona.

Seeing her reaction, Renya realizes that Rona is apparently stirring her up by deliberately switching to the elvish language.

"By the way..." (Rona)

Rona's look has a tinge of sharpness.

"Somehow I'm sensing gazes directed at me from all over." (Rona)

Renya had also vaguely perceived something in line with that.

This has been happening the whole time while they were in the middle of walking within the school building after leaving the room guided by Kurowaal. There were several presences continuing to send unreserved looks from the windows and shadows, although they likely thought that they were doing it stealthily.

Because their stares were not focussing on Renya, Frau or Shion, but were only glued to Rona, Renya didn't mind it overly much, however it seems that Rona has also noticed their stares.

Women seem to be extremely sensitive towards being watched, Renya assesses.

Their presences were so small that one wouldn't notice them, if that wasn't the case.

"There is no way that it's humans who are showering me with such looks in the elven country. These are elven stares, aren't they? ... They are treating me as chubby again and are ridiculing me... Very well, I will exterminate all of them. Let me offer them education so that they won't be able to say anything but 'A big chest is proof of abundant maternity and a big bottom is a symbol of easy childbirth." (Rona)

Renya drops his shoulders.

Because his uneasiness called *Won't it develop into a big problem between the races if someone becomes aware of there being elves who were educated in such a manner?*, Renya quickly hurls an order at Shion who was behind Rona.

"Shion, stop her." (Renya)

"Got it, Renya." (Shion)

Shion confirms with a nod to stop Rona who dragged out her quite unrefined mace from within her baggage while letting loose a dark, low laughter.

While looking at Shion binding the hands of Rona, who was kicking up a fuss by saying "Let-me-go!", behind her back, Renya asked Kurowaal in a whisper,

"Are the owners of those looks the outcome of the reformation of aesthetic sense?" (Renya)

"... Even though it's quite disgraceful..." (Kurowaal)

She tries to not let it show on her face as much as possible, but Kurowaal nods while slowly hanging her head in shame.

It seems that there are elves among those in the school who appreciate the charm of flesh. They appear to be continuing to send passionate stares at Rona's appearance while lurking in the shadows.

From their point of view, we are humans they usually won't be able to see. Moreover Rona possesses outstanding proportions even among humans.

It's not really difficult to imagine that they are using this rare opportunity to have a feast for their eyes.

That might be great for those looking, but because it exposes the one being watched to rude stares, it becomes a very troublesome matter.

"The probability of an attack is?" (Renya)

Renya asks about the probability of the elves starting a suicide attack by succumbing

to their urges.

"I can't completely deny it, but... in such a case it won't be handled as a crime, no matter what kind of counter attack we enact upon them." (Kurowaal)

Kurowaal states expressionlessly.

'It won't even be a problem if they end up getting killed in the worst case, if I take this at face value', is also an interpretation.

"No, rather, I recommend killing them instead. If you can do us the courtesy of eradicating them, it's possible that you will receive gratitude from the other elves." (Kurowaal)

"Are they a minority? The elves who say "Big breasts are great too", that is." (Renya)

"I don't want to talk about it, however... currently they are a minority, but they are experiencing rapid growth." (Kurowaal)

Renya shrugged his shoulders while Kurowaal was making grinding sounds with her teeth.

Renya glances at Rona who is still trying to rampage around.

"Are you saying that it's also fine to exterminate them by releasing that?" (Renya)

"It's no problem, but..." (Kurowaal)

Kurowaal says while her gaze returns to Renya's face after turning it towards Rona.

"Is that person fairly strong? At the level of being able to fight elves within a forest?" (Kurowaal)

"I wonder? I myself didn't fight against elves, thus it's nothing I can judge." (Renya)

"Since I cannot deny the possibility of that proportion* being taken somewhere after becoming powerless in case she has nothing but half-assed ability, she should depart with that kind of conviction." (Kurowaal) (T/N: *refers to Rona here)

"As for me, elves had an image of being an indifferent race that possesses longevity,

but... somehow, after having heard this much, I'm starting to regard you as race where men are strangely aggressive for sex, but..." (Renya)

Let's not do something like releasing Rona, no matter what happens, Renya judged.

I will be troubled if Rona is made into a plaything by the radical elven faction, once they noticed her.

In that case I would reduce them, including the forest, to ashes though, Renya waits for Kurowaal's reply while concealing his dangerous thoughts.

"It would be a blessing for me if you could comprehend it as "It's a way of thinking that is in the process of gradually changing with young elves in its centre."" (Kurowaal)

Kurowaal says it in a flat tone with the words obviously having no feelings packed into them, but without hearing any of her true feelings in those words, Renya continues to ask,

"And your true opinion is?" (Renya)

"I won't accept the fact that the number of elves who are getting tainted by the humans' way of thinking separately with their brains and with their lower half have increased."" (Kurowaal)

"For the time being I have to object on behalf of the human races' honour; there aren't only such guys? It's a fact that there are many of such fellows, but..." (Renya)

"Well, it probably doesn't really matter for the races overall as long as they leave behind offspring, be it with the human race or with their own race." (Kurowaal)

Kurowaal expresses her resignation while sighing.

"Won't that just increase the number of halfs?" (Renya)

Doesn't she care about the blood getting mixed up? Renya cocked his head in puzzlement.

"Halfs?" (Kurowaal)

"Master, children born between elves and humans are set to be the race of the man's

side ~no." (Frau)

Kurowaal holds in her desire to state her opinion of "I don't understand what you are talking about".

Frau explains to Renya who wracked his brain whether he had said something weird.

"Therefore, if Rona-ane-sama were to be abducted by elves, all of the produced children would be elves ~nano." (Frau)

While believing it to be a cruel example, Renya tries to ask about a different pattern.

"What if it was a child from Kurowaal and me?" (Renya)

"It will be a human ~no." (Frau)

"What are you saying!?" (Kurowaal)

Kurowaal raised her voice in protest while her cheeks became red.

"No, well, an example, it's just an example." (Renya)

"That's obvious. Why should I with a human..." (Kurowaal)

The end of the complaining Kurowaal's remark was muttered and couldn't be understood.

The topic has fallen to quite a dirty level, Renya smiles wryly.

What kind of meaning did she attach to that wry smile? Kurowaal turned her face away in a huff and began to give her undivided attention to walking forwards again.

While walking to chase after her back, Renya felt a sense of regret wondering whether he should leave them behind as he looks at the appearances of Rona, who is still raising a ruckus in the back, and Shion, who is trying to somehow calm and pacify Rona.

CHAPTER 56 IT SEEMS TO BE A DISCOVERY AND DANGEROUS SIGNS

"So, I've been told that your reason for this visit is to go on a pleasure jaunt." (Kurowaal)

Kurowaal who guided Renya's party to a place similar to a lounge for the time being prepares a number of chairs, fitting the number of people, around the circular table in the room and sits down on one of them.

Glasses for everyone were placed on top of the table. They were filled with some white, cloudy liquid.

Rona has a plainly repulsive expression due to the liquid giving off the feeling of being slightly thick.

As Renya sits down on a stool while pondering *What is she scheming?*, Kurowaal offers those drinks.

"It's a drink called Yolto (T/N: >> Youruto <<) and you mix it with a bit of honey. Since it's good for the body, please, go ahead." (Kurowaal)

Having it offered like this, Renya picks up his glass from the table and brings it close to his mouth.

Due to his non-cautious manner, Rona and Shion have a surprised expressions and Kurowaal's expression becomes slightly astonished.

Without minding that, Renya pours the content down his throat.

Certainly, the liquid's substance is a bit thick was his impression, but it's not to degree that it's difficult to drink. It carried a little bit of sourness and sweetness, which is likely originating from the honey.

"That's a bit unexpected." (Kurowaal)

Kurowaal says while picking up her own glass and taking a sip from it.

"Only if it's someone who has more alertness."

"The elves won't be as rude as feeding strange stuff to visitors all of a sudden, will they?" (Renya)

Renya puts his glass back on the table while harbouring the impression "It has a refreshing taste, however it's very unlikely that it will go well together with cooking."

Watching him and after he finally told them his impression, Shion's group stretched out their hands towards their cups as well.

"So, I shall return to our first conversation." (Kurowaal)

"Yea?" (Renya)

"What kind of things do you actually want to see? Though it's something said by me who's an elf, but there isn't anything interesting for humans here?" (Kurowaal)

"Let's see." (Renya)

After thinking for a short while, Renya continues his words,

"From the start I came here out of curiosity, but if there's unusually delicious food or if there's stuff that can't be seen in a human city, I'd like you to show us to those." (Renya)

Renya didn't ask for a guide, however *since the situation is like this already, it seems we* will wrap up things with little difficulty, if I ask Kurowaal to guide us around, Renya judges.

As he watches the state of Rona who looks uncomfortable, it's impossible to pick the option of acting more freely in this situation where the encircling net of the elves appears to be going strong.

The situation doesn't seem to rectify for her to go home by herself, Renya believed as if being almost certain.

"I don't think that you should have too much expectations about the scenery."

(Kurowaal)

Neatly crossing her legs on top of the stool, Kurowaal answers while pondering with her look roaming through the empty air as she is holding her knees.

"As for food... since we don't really like meat, shall I introduce you to dishes like seasoning made out of elven soya beans, I wonder?" (Kurowaal)

"It's not like we are vegetarians, but elves basically don't eat much meat", Kurowaal explains.

As replacement they developed dishes and seasoning which use plants.

"I don't think that humans are accustomed to them, but things like fermented seasoning, consisting of crushed elven soya beans and salt, or seasoning, made by wringing out elven soya beans, are delicious and I can recommend those. I believe that green elven soya beans boiled in salty water and eaten just like that are quite appetizing. Even changing it into a flour by crushing ripe beans has an ideal flavour to be used in sweets." (Kurowaal)

"... Somehow all that you are talking about are beans though..." (Renya)

Aren't the latter half of Kurowaal's remarks about edamame* or roasted soybean flour? Renya wonders. (T/N: green soybeans)

If my guess is correct, the seasoning will be stuff like miso and soy sauce.

If I'm able to gather miso and soy sauce here, the basic \(\sigma sashisuseso \) of cooking will become completely available and it will increase my cooking repertoire in one go.



Renya doesn't hate Western cooking, but he believes that soy sauce or miso with dashi from seafood directly appeals to the palate of a Japanese person.

Due to Renya sticking to her with sparkling eyes all of a sudden, Kurowaal showed a wry smile as if saying that it can't be helped.

"It seems there are some good things around here. Can you guide us around the city while heading towards the market?" (Renya)

It was the first time for Renya to see the townscape, led around by Kurowaal, along the way to the market.

The entire residential area of the elves is in a forest. The buildings are surrounded by trees, embraced by them or being a part of them in a great diversity. It has a charm completely different from the stone-made townscape of humans.

In case of humans handling trees, they either cut them, shave them or bend them in order to make them properly usable, but elves, making use of their long life spans, treat the trees as part of the whole by correcting things like the places, where they can grow, and the direction, in which they can extend, in order to have them slowly, slowly function as part of the city.

Due to the sight which feels somewhat similar to the cultivation of bonsai though the scale is completely different, Renya believed that it was great of him to have come here for the time being.

As it's the first time for Shion to see a townscape in the elven country as well, she walks while following behind Renya with an absent-minded expression. *Frau hasn't much interest in that?* She walks in a state of somehow clinging to a sleeve of Renya's attire.

Only Rona hasn't the leeway to enjoy the scenery of the surroundings. Sensing the lecherous gazes glueing onto her from who knows where, she walked while feeling ill at ease.

The passing-by inhabitants of the city aren't facing Rona with such gazes.

Since that's the case, it's a safe bet to say that the criminals are elves which are hiding somewhere, however even with Renya using his eyes, he can't conclude a full analysis of their numbers and location though he somehow knows that they are there.

"Hey..." (Renya)

"What is it?" (Kurowaal)

Did she somewhat guess what he wants to say? Kurowaal's voice is stiff.

I should state it nevertheless, Renya continues,

"As far as I know, such leering is called an extremely sleazy act by humans..." (Renya)

"Did you believe that they will say "How informative"?" (Kurowaal)

While clenching her fist to the degree of it apparently making conspicuous sounds, Kurowaal says as she strives to remain calm,

"I will repeatedly apologize in regards to this matter." (Kurowaal)

"No, well, I'm fine, but she is ... can't we do something for her?" (Renya)

"Although I'm an elf, the opponents are elves as well. Moreover, it's very likely that their side is older." (Kurowaal)

Frustration is mixed into Kurowaal's voice.

"It will be difficult to find them within the forest." (Kurowaal)

"Muu." (Renya)

Renya groans lowly.

Renya had the confidence to immediately sense it if it was something like blood-thirst or hostility being turned at them. On top of it being Rona and not Renya at whom it is directed this time, the looks are free of strong emotions like hostility and such.

Moreover, as those are like gazes haunting their target stickily, Rona is definitely feeling chills and discomfort, but you can also say that it stops at only that on the other hand.

By all means it's wrong to release the spell <Investigation> within the city as well. Even if we were able to specify the other party with that, it would only allow us to see them

and it's very unlikely that we would be able to pursue them if they became serious.

They are troublesome opponents, Renya sighs.

As Renya thinks *I will settle it right away if they try to kidnap Rona*, Kurowaal who is next to him informs them that they arrived at the market.

A market in the elven country had quite a different atmosphere than that in human country after all.

Although an abundance of various types of fruits and vegetables are gathered, the meat was mostly unrefined.

There was an array of exquisite fishes, but there wasn't a big variety of meat.

In places where people gather it's correct to say that there will always be stalls. If it's a human market, the smell of roasted meat will waft through it, but the elven stalls have mostly soups and boiled dishes while roasted dishes are missing pretty much.

"This way is a store dealing in the seasoning you showed interest in, Renya-san." (Kurowaal)

The store pointed at by Kurowaal certainly was a shop overflowing with buckets, which were filled with a light brown paste, and jars, which had a likewise light brown liquid in them.

Shelving the matter of the gazes for the time being, Renya begins to fiercely investigate the lined-up goods.

Going by the smell and appearance there was almost no mistake, but those were soy sauce and miso Renya knew of.

However, the problem is the taste.

As it is a different world, I can't definitely say that something outrageous like it having a chocolate taste although it has the appearance of miso can't happen at all.

"I'd like to sample it a bit, but is that allowed?" (Renya)

Hearing the word "sampling", the shop clerk's expression turns sour.

I understand his feelings about that, but showing such face while doing business is no good, Renya assesses.

However, being the one who wants to taste it, Renya can't strongly demand it either.

Especially soy sauce is a seasoning that has to be used up as quickly as possible once you break the seal on it.

The longer it gets in contact with air, the more it deteriorates and looses its flavour. Renya understands that it's difficult to offer it for sampling.

"Isn't it possible to at least sample the light-brown paste over there?" (Renya)

It's fine to say that soy sauce will have most likely the correct taste if there's nothing wrong with the taste of the miso.

The ingredients are somewhat different, but it's not like it will have a largely deviating taste which exceeds one's imagination, Renya judges.

Due to the clerk showing disapproval even then, Kurowaal whispered a few words to him.

Since her voice was too low, Renya, who is nearby, couldn't hear it either, but it seemed that the clerk heard it. He stares at Renya's face and withdraws into the interior of the store. Bringing out something like a small, pure white stick, he scoops up a bit of the light brown paste with it and holds it out to Renya.

Renya, who took it, noticed that the pure white stick was something made out of some cut ends of vegetables.

Guessing that he is supposed to probably eat it just like that, Renya tosses it into his mouth.

Because the consistency of the food while being chewed was crisp, the juices of the vegetables spread within his mouth and blend there with the saltiness and the good taste of soy beans.

I have a feeling that the saltiness was a bit strong, but it's probably a type of miso that takes a long time to mature and thus a somewhat larger quantity of salt was put in.

Going by the taste, there's mostly no mistake that this is miso.

Renya unintentionally was about to collapse due to the the dearly missed taste from his previous life, but as it's a public place, he endures with an effort and gives his thanks to the clerk.

"Thank you. I want to buy this, but what is this seasoning called?" (Renya)

"This is miso. It's a seasoning taught to the elves by a Lost." (Clerk)

Renya, who was surprised that miso (in katakana) is miso (in kanji) even in a different world, gets even more astonished by the following words.

It seems a pioneer had introduced the method of producing soy sauce and miso to the elves.

"Originally the elven beans were boiled and eaten in their green state, but the Lost, who fell on the elven continent, spread and taught us various processing methods to use the beans and the seasoning have been loved by the elves for a long time now", the clerk explains to Renya.

"That ojou-san over there said that you are a Lost." (Clerk)

"That's why I allowed you to sample the seasoning", the clerk smiled.

While being grateful for the great achievement of the pioneer, Renya begins to count how much money he has on him right now. Seeing the appearance of such Renya, Frau butts into the conversation.

"How much can you buy for one gold coin ~no?" (Frau)

"You are outsiders, right? There's also the share of the regular customers. I'm not able to sell you too much since since they also take time to prepare, but... if it's 3 casks of miso and 2 casks of soy sauce, I will sell them for 1 gold coin to you." (Clerk)

A single casked had a size looking like around 10 liters would fit in, going by Renya's estimation.

He feels that the price is a bit too high, but there are also parts where he can't help but agree if he assumes that it's the price correction of a different world.

While Renya is hesitating and pondering *However, an expense of 1 gold coin is a lot,* Frau promptly took out one gold coin from within the pocket of her apron dress and handed it to the clerk.

"I will buy it with this ~no." (Frau)

"Oy, Frau..." (Renya)

"Master wants to eat this ~no. Thus I will buy it without hesitation ~no." (Frau)

"There won't be any problems, if I increase the sale of magic gems", Frau brags.

Frau boasts of a strength someone like Renya can't match in regards to fund-raising and administrative ability.

While storing away the casks, which were laboriously moved from the stores' shelves, into his inventory in exchange for the gold coin, the ears of Renya, who earnestly believes *Man*, *I'm no match*, suddenly picked up the sounds of tumults occurring among the people of the city.

Once he turns his face in the direction of the sounds, he can even hear voices similar to the screaming of people and the sound of something heavy travelling.

As it seems that the elves, who have good ears, immediately noticed it as well, everyone turns their looks uneasily in that direction and Shion and Rona, who don't understand the situation, draw close to Renya.

"Renya, what the heck is going on?" (Shion)

"Somehow... it seems there's an uproar over there." (Renya)

"Those are the sounds of horse's hooves..." (Kurowaal)

Almost at the same time as Kurowaal mutters that, Renya starts running.

Shion followed one step later.

Once he starts running, he immediately sees the figure of the horse who's the culprit of the uproar.

It looks like a single elf is straddling on its back, but no matter how you look at it, the elves' state was weird.

Both of the elf's hands, which should grasp the reins, are dangling loosely at the sides. He isn't moving even a twitch while their body has a posture similar to hanging onto the horseback.

As if that body couldn't stand the horse's swaying, it slides down little by little and in the end fell off the horseback without the elf readjusting their posture.

"Renya! The elf fell!" (Shion)

Even faster than Shion's shout, Renya steps in strongly.

Changing the recoil into movement force, Renya, who abruptly accelerated, catches the body while running alongside the horse's flank before the elf can crash into the ground from the horseback.

The horse, which lost its rider, rushed ahead without control and in the direction of its heading stood Shion.

"Shion!?" (Renya)

You don't say that she intends to take on the charge as it is, Renya wondered, but as expected, there's no realistic method to do so if you consider the horse's weight.

Shion dodges the approaching horse slightly and grabs the reins, which are swaying due to the force of the horse's running, with her left hand. Using those, she nimbly straddled on the horseback.

"Renya, this horse is quite difficult to handle." (Shion)

Shion, who displayed that she was easily able to hold and manipulate the reins during the rampaging state of the horse, calls out to Renya who approached her while holding the fallen elf.

"It's covered all over in wounds. I don't know where they have come from, but those are quite serious injuries." (Shion)

The horse, which is able to move although having serious injuries all over, continues

to shed streams of blood alongside its violent movements. Shion's clothes have been soaked in that blood here and there, but she doesn't look like she cares about that.

"Yea, I have a similar feeling here as well." (Renya)

Renya, who replied, looks down on the unconscious elf in his hands.

The beautiful, well-featured looks made it difficult to distinguish whether it's a man or a woman, even if looking from close-by, but since the feeling of the body was reasonably firm, Renya judges that it's likely a man.

Having a leather armour with a green jouge on top equipped, his appearance of having a quiver hanging at his waist and carrying a bow on his back made him out as archer.

However, his equipment is torn all over, he keeps shedding blood and his quiver is empty.

The string of the bow he carried has snapped and it has lost its use.

"Oy, pull yourself together. What happened?" (Renya)

Shaking the body of the unconscious elf a bit, the elf opens his eyes, albeit dimly, once Renya calls out to him and looks up to Renya.

Moving the cracked lips just a bit, he leaked a hoarse voice.

"To the government... contact..."

Is his consciousness in disorder or hasn't his field of vision settled?

The elf, who is carried by Renya, doesn't seem to realize that the other party is a human.

"Wait, don't talk after all. It will shorten your life. Since there's a priest who can cast healing magic, first comes the treatment..." (Renya)

"Please... the eastern defence fortress has fallen..."

Doesn't he hear Renya's words anymore? The elf didn't stop talking.

Clinging to him as if he wants to pierce his nails partly into the arms of Renya, who is holding his body, he musters his strength and continues to speak words.

"The Forest Labyrinth... has... overflowed!"

Stating that, the eyes of the elf become empty.

Losing strength from the arms which clung onto Renya, he feebly hangs his head. Renya had no other choice but simply watch it happen.

